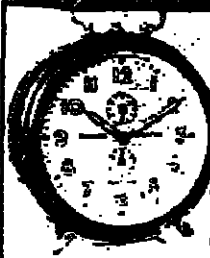


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US may cut down forces in the Gulf

PARIS, July 20, (Agencies): The United States is considering reducing its forces in the Gulf following Iran's acceptance of a UN ceasefire with Iraq, US Deputy Defense Secretary William Taft said today.

"The developments in general are very welcome," Taft told a news conference. "It remains to see how it works out. If tensions are reduced, if the promise of the situation was fulfilled, it would lead to a reduction of our presence there," said Taft, who is the No. 2 man to Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci.

Taft was in Paris during a swing through four European countries as part of efforts to try and persuade NATO members to share a greater burden of alliance defence spending with the United States.

Taft declined to say whether the United States would eventually reduce its naval task force in the Gulf to the exact same level of some three or four ships that was maintained before the start of the Gulf war.

In Los Angeles, President Reagan's National Security Adviser said he does not believe the US will ever withdraw all its naval forces from the Gulf, despite hopes of a ceasefire.

Lt. Gen. Colin L. Powell, answering a question during a rare speaking engagement before the Los Angeles World Affairs Council yesterday, said: "Because of the importance of that waterway and our strategic interests in the region, I do not see us ever removing our forces from the Gulf."

Italy said today it hoped its six-ship naval fleet could leave the Gulf soon, but Britain said it intended to keep its naval patrol there until it was sure the Iran-Iraq war was over.

Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, speaking to reporters in the Italian Senate, said: "I hope they will be able to return as soon as possible."

Baghdad offers direct talks, but Tehran rejects

UN chief will send team to Iraq and Iran immediately

UNITED NATIONS, July 20, (Agencies): Iraq called today for direct ceasefire talks with Iran, and UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said he is immediately sending a UN military team to the two warring nations to prepare the grounds for a truce.

Iraq rejected direct talks with Iran.

Measures

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz said a meeting of "authorised representatives" from the two nations should be held first at UN headquarters in New York under the auspices of the secretary-general.

He proposed that a second meeting be held in Baghdad and Tehran to pursue talks on ending the nearly eight-year-old conflict.

that began in Sept 1980.

The representatives should "begin formal and direct talks on measures to enforce the UN Security Council Resolution 598 in accordance with the sequence of its operative articles."

He said the meeting should be held "as soon as possible ... aimed at creating appropriate atmosphere for signing an agreement on comprehensive and lasting peace between the two countries."

Aziz's proposals, contained in a letter to Perez de Cuellar, called for clearing the Shatt Al Arab waterway for navigation and Iran and Iraq to provide the "necessary facilities" to open the estuary where the Rivers Tigris and the Euphrates meet.

Perez de Cuellar said: "The team will work out on an urgent basis with the authorities the modalities of implementing the immediate ceasefire, on land, sea

and air, called for in the resolution."

The team is headed by Lt. Gen. Martin Vadset of Norway, who is the chief-of-staff of the UN truce supervisory organisation based in Jerusalem.

"I expect that the report of this team will place me in a position to promptly announce a D-Day (ceasefire) for the commencement of implementation of the resolution," the secretary-general said.

Withdrawal

Once the D-Day comes into effect, Perez de Cuellar said he will send a team of UN observers to "verify, confirm and supervise" the ceasefire and the subsequent withdrawal of "all forces" to internationally recognised borders.

On the same day, he said, he will announce dates for the completion of troops withdrawal, release of prisoners of war, peace negotiations and establishment of an impartial body to determine responsibility in the war.

"In these circumstances, I join with the Security Council in exercising the utmost restraint and to refrain from any act, military and otherwise, that might endanger my effort and in particular the work of the technical team and exacerbate the situation," Perez de Cuellar said.

He said the call for restraint applies also to nations that have warships in the Gulf. The United States has 27 warships in the Gulf area, including 15 in the Gulf itself, which are providing protection to tankers and merchant ships against Iranian attacks.

Guarantee

Britain, France, Italy and the Netherlands also maintain some warships in the area.

Perez de Cuellar said the team, which will report back to him in one week, will comprise about 10 officers drawn from existing peacekeeping forces in the Middle East and UN personnel working in Baghdad and Tehran.

The Iraqi foreign minister's proposal for direct talks with Iran was part of "five practical steps to the United Nations and

Iran" he addressed to Perez de Cuellar today.

Aziz's third point, after direct talks and opening of the Shatt Al Arab waterway, called for immediate guarantee and Iraq's "full rights" of free navigation in the Arab Gulf waters and the Strait of Hormuz.

Aziz, fearing ceasefire talks might fail, urged Perez de Cuellar and the UN Security Council to play a role in ending the conflict. Iraq's letter also said any difference of opinion on the sequence of implementing the Resolution 598 would be resolved under the UN charter, international law and the 1949 Geneva Convention on the treatment of prisoners of war.

He finally called on Iran to "refrain from intercepting or attacking ships and oil tankers operating in the territorial waters of the Gulf states which are not part in the conflict and in the high seas and the Strait of Hormuz."

At his news conference, Perez de Cuellar said he had not read Aziz's proposals, having only an Arabic-language copy so far, but that he would have no objections to Iran and Iraq holding direct meetings.

But Iranian Ambassador Mohammad Jafar Mahallati, when asked if his country would agree to direct negotiations, replied, "No, we will not accept direct talks."

Pakistan election on Nov 16

Opposition cries foul as Zia calls late polls

ISLAMABAD, July 20, (Agencies): Pakistan President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq today announced that national elections would be held on Nov 16, almost three months later than anticipated by opposition parties.

Former Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo attacked the President for using "delaying tactics."

Opposition leader Benazir Bhutto had no immediate comment. She is expecting a child at the end of the year and the November date could make it difficult for her to campaign.

When he dismissed the Junejo government on May 29, Zia promised elections within 90 days but today he told the Senate he had decided the polls could not go ahead before November for several reasons, chiefly the need to redraw constituency boundaries.

Delay

His decision to delay elections is likely to anger opposition parties, grouped under the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy, who have been urging Zia to hold the poll by Aug 27, and gearing their campaigns accordingly.

The President did not say if political parties would be allowed to contest the polls but pledged they would be free, fair and impartial. The last elections in 1985 were held on a partyless basis.



Gen. Zia-ul-Haq

Sardar Sherbaz Khan Mazari, president of the opposition National Democratic Party said: "Zia has not announced whether the parties will be allowed to participate in the elections or not. I do not know why Zia is keeping the nation in suspense and confusion."

Junejo, who is president of the deeply divided Pakistan Muslim League, told reporters in Islamabad: "All these actions are unconstitutional. The constitution demands clearly that the election should be held within 90 days (of the dissolution)."

Stockbroker Fayyaz Rana said businessmen reacted to the news by pushing stock prices

(Continued on Page 2)

'Decision worse than taking poison'

Acceptance of ceasefire is not a tactics: Khomeini



Khomeini

NICOSIA, July 20, (Reuters): Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini said today the decision to accept a ceasefire in the Gulf war was more deadly than taking poison but was not a tactic to prolong the military conflict.

"Taking this decision was more deadly than taking poison. I submit myself to God's will and drank this drink for his satisfaction," he said.

Terming the decision very bitter, he said: "I had promised to fight to the last drop of my blood and to my last breath. Today's decision (Iran's new stance) is based only on the interest of the Islamic republic."

Khomeini said he could not detail the reasons why the country's political leaders asked him to end the war, but he decided to accept recommendations. He did not refer to any leaders by name. He warned the United States

and Europe to get out of the Gulf as Tehran had accepted a year-old UN-ordered ceasefire in the eight-year-old war with Iraq.

"We should be prepared for jihad (holy war) to deflect possible aggression by the enemy. Our nation should not consider the matter finished. Our aim is not a new tactic to continue the war," he said.

Referring to the presence of foreign forces in the Gulf, the Iranian leader said: "I warn the systems in America and Europe to get out of the Gulf before it is too late and you are drowned in quagmires of death."

In excerpts from his statement broadcast on Tehran Radio, Khomeini said Iran planned to extend the influence of Islam in the world and to tackle Zionism, capitalism and communism.

Iran "is not cowed by accusations of expansionism and of

(Continued on Page 2)

Iran's decision has to be taken at face value: US

By Jadranka Porter

THE United States said yesterday that Iran's acceptance of the UN ceasefire resolution has to be taken at face value but Tehran's intentions would be tested through its response to the United Nations efforts to implement the resolution in its entirety.

"There is no real way for us to know what Iran's motivation or intention is. We have to take them as they were. But the way to

test them is by supporting the efforts of the UN secretary-general and by creating conditions in which a ceasefire can come into effect very soon," said Peter Burleigh, the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for the Gulf area.

Influence

The presence of the US Navy and five other Western navies in the Gulf has had some influence on Iran's decision, Burleigh said in a wide-ranging satellite interview with the Arab Times

and two of Kuwait's Arabic dailies. The interview coincided with the first anniversary of the passing of resolution 598.

"The Iranian leadership has pointed to some of the pressures on Iran by the US and other navies in the Gulf," he said.

"We would hope that on the Iranian side there is a deep appreciation that this bloody war has to be brought to an end and now we must test their intentions."

(Continued on Page 2)

Iraq raids Iranian oil facilities

MANAMA, Bahrain, July 20, (Agencies): Iraq said its bombers today continued the air war with Iran, raiding two Iranian oil pumping stations and scoring direct hits before returning safely to base.

A military spokesman in Baghdad, in a statement broadcast by Baghdad Radio, said the bombers carried out "destructive strikes" on the two stations, situated near the Iranian city of Aza, at 10 am.

The spokesman said Iraqi air defence gunners earlier had forced two Iranian warplanes to flee while trying to penetrate Iraq's international border at the northern sector of the war front.

He said the Iranian planes were apparently attempting to attack Iraq's Dokhan Dam, but the Iraqi gunners forced the enemy to "drop his bombs outside the dam area."

3 die in widespread West Bank violence

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 20, (Reuters): Israeli troops shot dead three Palestinians and wounded eight in the occupied West Bank today, while riot police battled Palestinian protesters in Jerusalem's old city.

The most widespread violence in more than a month followed the deaths of two Palestinians earlier in the week under disputed circumstances. Most Arabs blamed Israeli troops for the deaths, but the Army called one "an accident" and the other "a police matter."

Serious

In the Christian quarter of the old city, border police fired tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse about 50 masked stone-throwing Arab teenagers.

In Jenin refugee camp in the West Bank, troops opened fire on a crowd of demonstrators,

killing Hisham Zaid, 26, and Fouad Bassam Aradi, 13, hospital and Palestinian sources said.

The Army said two people from Jenin were shot dead by soldiers, but had no further details.

A 25-year-old Palestinian from Jenin was taken to Jerusalem's Mokassed Hospital in a serious condition, after he was shot in the head.

The other death occurred in Shiyukh village near Hebron. Soldiers shot Zaki Ali Halykeh, 23, as he was about to throw a petrol bomb at them, an Army spokesman said. Three Palestinians were wounded in the incident.

The deaths brought to 239 the number of Palestinians who have died in a seven-month uprising in the occupied West Bank and

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پاکستان میں عام انتخابات

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- امریکی پاکستان کو ایٹم بم بنانے سے روک سکتا ہے
- راجہ
- میں نے جنگ بندی کا زہر چالو کیا ہے
- قلمی اشاعت اور خواتین بچوں کے صفحات

WEATHER

TEMPERATURE will be around normal with light variable winds. State of sea: moderate. High water: 4.30 am, 4.00 pm. Low water: 10.30 am, 10.00 pm. Sunrise: 5.01 am. Sunset: 6.48 pm. Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 46°C (115°F). Ahmadi: 43°C (109°F). Faisalaka: 42°C (108°F). Minimum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 30°C (82°F). Ahmadi: 31°C (88°F). Faisalaka: 33°C (91°F). Maximum temperature expected: Kuwait: 46°C (115°F). Ahmadi: 43°C (109°F). Faisalaka: 42°C (108°F). Minimum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 14 per cent. Ahmadi: 18 per cent. Faisalaka: 21 per cent. Maximum humidity expected: Kuwait: 16 per cent. Ahmadi: 20 per cent. Faisalaka: 23 per cent.

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INTERNATIONAL

Speeches electrify Democrats

Jackson endorses Dukakis

ATLANTA, July 20, (Reuters): Jesse Jackson and Edward Kennedy, a black preacher and a white millionaire, electrified the Democratic convention last night with oratory that had the hall shaking to cheers, chants, laughter, weeping and the seconds of political unity.

On a memorable night for the often-divided Democrats, Kennedy fired up the crowd in rare baritone form and Jackson topped the show with a rousing, revivalist sermon including a gracious endorsement of prospective presidential nominee Michael Dukakis.

Fervour

People laughed as the two ridiculed the certain Republican nominee George Bush. They wept at moving moments in Jackson's sermon-like appeal. At the end they stood stamping in the hall chanting rhythmically. "Jesse Jesse Jesse."

Jackson and Dukakis delegates, black and white, linked

hands and swayed in religious-like fervour as gospel music filled the hall from a loudspeaker.

It was a night the absent Dukakis — preparing in private for his crowning moment of nomination today — could only have dreamed of as he readied for the November 8 election fight.

"I salute Governor Michael Dukakis," said Jackson, the 46-year-old Baptist preacher, who was ushered into the hall by a marching band blaring "The Stars and Stripes Forever" and cheering from supporters who danced in the aisles.

"His foreparents came to America on immigrant ships," Jackson said of Dukakis, son of wealthy Greek-Americans. "My foreparents came to America on slave ships."

But there was more, delivered by "Teddy" Kennedy, once a dominant figure in Democratic presidential politics but lately in the background as a gray-haired, senior senator from Massa-

chusetts.

He came on early, was greeted by deafening cheers and delivered a speech so moving it seemed as though Jackson might be upstaged before he arrived in the hall.

Kennedy, introduced by his nephew John Kennedy, son of the assassinated President, got the crowd rocking along in an evangelist-style chant-and-response litany as he accused Bush over and over of being a man who tries to avoid association with controversial Reagan administration policies and scandals like the Iran-Contra affair.

Kennedy would cite a scandal, say "I think it is fair to ask..." And the crowd would roar amid laughter: "Where... was... George?"

Kennedy also set up the Jackson-Dukakis, black-white unity theme of the evening by lavishing praise on Jackson and comparing Dukakis to the President Kennedy.

Kidnapped girl found beneath church altar

SACRAMENTO, Calif., July 20, (Reuters): A four-year-old girl abducted six weeks ago and locked in a crawl space under a church altar said today she passed the time watching television.

Police rescued Candi Talarico from her makeshift prison at the United Methodist Church in Elk Grove, Calif. on Monday.

The space, about five feet (1.5 m) square and two feet (0.6 m) high, contained toys, food, blankets and a television set.

"She was fine," Candi's mother, Diane van Gelder, told a news conference at her home in the state capital of Sacramento. "She was real happy to see me and wondered where I was. She didn't understand why I wasn't there."

Police arrested the church's deaf-mute custodian, Kenneth Michel, 32, and booked in the county jail. He was to be formally charged in the abduction of Candi and another girl, five-year-old Muey Han Saefong.

The second girl had been missing only a few hours and was found gagged and bound in Michel's car.

Second girl

Candi's mother, ecstatic over her daughter's return, said Candi had entertained herself by watching television.

"She says she watched TV all day — cartoons," Van Gelder said. Candi disappeared on June 4, prompting a search by dozens of police.

A Sacramento police spokesman said a suspicious person had reported the licence number of Michel's car and they staked out the church where he had been working as a part-time custodian.

After police discovered Muey Han Saefong bound and hidden in a cardboard box in the back of his car, Michel directed them to the crawl space beneath the altar, he said.

Van Gelder said she never gave up hope her Candi would be found. "I never gave up. Never, never, never, never," she said.

Soviets punish Nagorno-Karabakh secessionist

Armenian loses citizenship

MOSCOW, July 20, (AP): The Soviet government today expelled a prominent Armenian activist as punishment for stirring up nationalist sentiment in the inter-ethnic fight over the Nagorno-Karabakh region, the Tass news agency announced.

Paruyr Ayrikyan was stripped of Soviet citizenship and expelled, Tass said, without making clear where the activist was headed or whether he had left Soviet territory.

The expulsion came two days after the Soviet leadership gave a final ruling in the heated and sometimes violent struggle between Armenians and Azerbaijanis over control of the small region in the caucuses mountains.

Campaign

The decision of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet declaring annexation "impossible" was published on the front pages of all national newspapers today.

Residents of the Armenian capital of Yerevan had been reported to be "despondent" but relatively calm earlier in the day, before word was released of Ayrikyan's expulsion.

The 39-year-old nationalist helped organise the Armenian drive to have Nagorno-

Karabakh annexed to the Armenian Republic and provided frequent reports to foreign correspondents in Moscow on the mass demonstrations and strikes staged in support of the annexation effort.

Since his youth "he has been involved in fanning up nationalist animosity," Tass said of Ayrikyan, who has spent 17 years in labour camps and exile for his activity.

Tass said the "former criminal" created a crisis situation in Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh, and accused him of giving information to Moscow-based correspondents that was "based on imagination."

Ayrikyan had been arrested on March 25 and charged with defaming the Soviet state. Other Armenian activists arrested during the protests that swept Armenia in February and March have been released.

Protest

Repeated telephone calls to Nagorno-Karabakh for reports on the situation there failed to go through.

An Armenian activist in Moscow, Leon Sudzhyan, told the Associated Press that hundreds of Armenians had tried to gather at Red Square last night in

protest of the decision, but that police had roughed them up and taken them away to police stations.

In Yerevan, a correspondent for the official Tass news agency was asked by the AP how Armenians reacted to the news that their annexation drive had been rejected.

"The city is quiet now. There are rumours of gatherings and protests, but we have not been able to confirm these," said the journalist, who did not want to give his name. "So far we have seen nothing out of order, but maybe tonight."

Armenians in Yerevan and Nagorno-Karabakh have been demonstrating and staging strikes since February, when the leadership turned down an initial appeal to have Armenia annex the region, which is predominantly Armenian but has no common borders with the republic.

Nagorno-Karabakh has been part of the Azerbaijan Republic since 1923, and the presidium decided it will remain there.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's impassioned speech on nationality problems to the special presidium meeting was broadcast late Tuesday on national television.

Iran's decision has to be taken at ...

(Continued from Page 1)

He said the turning point for Iran was an accumulation of problems, its deteriorating position in the land war, pressures in the Gulf, its international isolation and an erosion of morale.

He said Washington would anticipate reducing the level of its naval deployment in the Gulf provided the resolution 598 is implemented in all its aspects.

Tension

"If all that (the implementation of all the clauses of the 598 resolution) is in train and the level of tension in the Gulf region subsides and specifically if the freedom of navigation is not challenged by the Iranians we would anticipate to draw down from high level of our presence there," said Burleigh. But he stressed that the US Navy would not withdraw completely from the Gulf.

He indicated that the US and the Soviet Union would not compete in efforts to normalise their relations with Iran pointing out that the Soviet relations with Tehran which he said were currently at a low ebb were not linked to the US-Iran relations.

Last year the United States made it clear that one of its major security concerns in the Gulf was to limit the Soviet influence in the region.

"We are ready to have an authoritative official dialogue with the government of Iran should it be interested in such communications," said Burleigh. He added that the US frequently exchanged messages with the Iranian government through

third parties but there had not been any direct US-Iranian meetings.

There is a growing appreciation in Congress of Kuwait's defence needs and security concerns following the visit to the US by H.H. the Crown Prince and Prime Minister of Kuwait, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah, said Burleigh.

"The administration continues its efforts to ensure that Congress will approve the F-18 arms deal with Kuwait," he said. The Senate has barred the sale of Maverick missiles to Kuwait as part of the \$1.9 billion arms package. Kuwait has said the sale must be considered a package and if the Maverick portion is not approved the F-18 deal would probably be cancelled.

He could not say whether the decision in Congress on the Kuwaiti arms deal would be affected by Iran's peaceful gesture but stressed that the countries in the region should plan for their own defences in the future in any event, even in the context of a move towards peace in the Iraq-Iran war.

Defensive

"There will definitely be a continued requirement for defensive equipment on the part of the government of Kuwait and of the other Gulf states," Burleigh said. Concerning the shooting down of the Iran Air jetliner by a US cruiser Burleigh said the US Navy in the Gulf would not be given any fresh instructions to prevent another such tragic error before the formal investigation of the accident is completed.

"We are looking forward to the results of the recommendations for steps to be taken to ensure that such an occurrence does not happen again," said Burleigh.

The compensations to the families of Iranian victims he said would go through an international organisation to make sure that the money does not go to the Iranian government.

Floods kill 16

SEOUL, July 20, (AP): Torrential rains flooded houses and rivers and triggered landslides, leaving at least 25 people dead or missing today, government officials said.

The national counter-disaster centre said 16 people were confirmed killed and nine were missing and presumed dead.

'Acceptance of ceasefire is not a tactics'

(Continued from Page 1)

dreaming of forming a big Islamic empire," he said.

"We intend to dry up the roots of Zionism, capitalism and communism in the world," Khomeini said.

Warned

The Iranian leader's statement was his first public one since Iran announced it had accepted the UN Security Council Resolution 598.

The 85-year-old spiritual leader warned that the problems of the conflict were not over.

"Accepting the resolution does not mean the question of war has been solved. By declaring this decision we have blunted the propaganda weapon of the world's gossamers against us. But one cannot forecast the course of events definitely," he said.

The Iranian news agency IRNA said Khomeini consoled Muslim militants over the decision to agree to the Security Council order and hastened to say that the decision did not necessarily mean an end to the war.

Change

Tehran has persistently said Iraq started the war and sought a change in the order of resolution 598 to have Baghdad branded the aggressor before any ceasefire.

Under the now accepted resolution, a committee is to be set up to apportion blame for the conflict.

Iran is also pursuing a diplomatic offensive in the United Nations over the shooting down by a US warship in the Gulf of an Iran Air passenger plane, killing 290 people on July 3.

Khomeini said Iranian resistance against the biggest show of naval force in the waterway was one of the country's biggest honours.

3 die in widespread West Bank violence

(Continued from Page 1)

Gaza Strip. Four Israelis have also been killed.

Youths in the West Bank towns of Ramallah and Al Bireh blocked roads with stone barricades and pelted troops while others stoned several Israeli vehicles in Arab East Jerusalem, witnesses said.

"They are attacking without fear and with great courage," said an East Jerusalem hotel owner. "They are not afraid of the blood any more because the Army killed the first martyr from Jerusalem."

Israel annexed East Jerusalem shortly after capturing it from Jordan in the 1967 Middle East war.

Trouble

Military sources said authorities had expected widespread trouble following the killing of Fawad Rabadi, a 16-year-old Jerusalem resident shot dead yesterday by a gunman who left an Israeli bus which had been stoned.

A police investigation into the killing was delayed amid bickering with the Army about who had jurisdiction over the area where he was killed. Arab youths held the Army responsible.

A woman was injured in the head today when Arabs stoned a bus north of Jerusalem, the Army said. Several Palestinians were arrested and streets cordoned off.

In Jerusalem's old city, police dispersed the group of teenagers, chased a number of them to a four-storey apartment block and tried to force them out with tear gas.

The apartment building was about 50 metres (yards) from an alley where a border police officer was critically wounded by a stone during clashes yesterday after Rabadi's killing.

Rabadi's death followed the killing of a 17-year-old tailor in the West Bank town of Beit Sahour, near Bethlehem.

In Parliament, deputy Chief of Staff Ehud Barak said that the Army's official toll of Palestinians killed during the revolt stood at 211.

Caused

Barak told the foreign affairs and defence committee that 170 of those deaths came from Israeli Army gunfire. The remainder were caused by a variety of reasons.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin told Parliament that tax revenue from the West Bank and Gaza Strip had dropped by 40 per cent in the fiscal year that ended in April.

Opposition cries foul as Zia ...

(Continued from Page 1)

slightly higher.

Pakistani politics have been in a state of flux since May 29 when Zia dismissed Junejo and dissolved the lower house of Parliament and four provincial assemblies.

"I don't want to involve myself in this (constitutional) controversy," Zia told the Senate. "I think the purposes of the constitution are quite clear and that it is necessary that steps should be taken to hold elections to the National Assembly as soon as possible."

Wanted

Zia said he wanted to hold the elections within three months of the dissolution. "But I am very sorry that it does not seem possible to practically do it."

Opposition figures speculated that Zia could use this week's upsurge of communal violence in the southern province of Sind, in which 20 people died, to justify delaying the polls.

He did not mention Sind but listed several reasons for the delay.

The mourning month of Moharram would have coincided with campaigning for an August poll, he said. August is also in the middle of the rainy season and 80,000 to 90,000 Pakistanis are on the annual pilgrimage to Makkah, he added.

But he said the most important reason was the constitutional requirement to redraw constituency boundaries on the basis of population.

This would normally take six to nine months, but Zia said he had insisted the Election Commission work day and night to complete the job in three to four months.

Mine blast

COLOMBO, July 20, (Reuters): A Sri Lankan soldier was killed and four wounded when a mine blew up their truck in eastern Sri Lanka today, military officials said.

They blamed the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) separatist guerrillas for the attack at Thorup in Trincomalee district.

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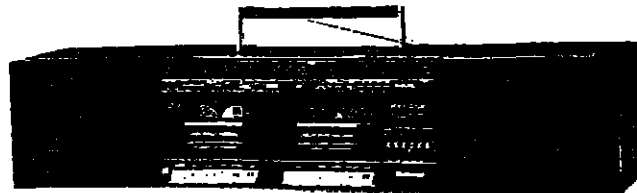
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هكزان الثمن

Trial resumes in Frankfurt

Hamadi expresses hatred for US

FRANKFURT, July 20, (AP) — Mohammed Al-Hamadi, on trial for air piracy and murder in the 1985 TWA hijacking, today testified about his hatred for the United States, adding "America kills, America destroys."

It was the Lebanese Shiite Muslim's most bitter attack on the United States since his trial opened July 5 in a Frankfurt courtroom.

After his elder brother had refused to testify at the start of the day's proceedings, Mohammed Hamadi continued reading a statement he had started the day before.

Chief judge Heiner Mueckenberger interrupted him by asking: "Do you hate the USA?"

"I grew up in Lebanon in the middle of the war, and one naturally asks himself — why? The answer was always America, or Israel with support of America," Hamadi responded.

Again, the chief judge asked him: "Do you hate America?"

"I have hateful feelings for all that attacked us, not just for the USA alone," Hamadi testified through an interpreter.

Hamadi continued: "I only hear America, America, America, America kills, America destroys. If I were an Afghan, I would have the same feelings for Russia."

Hamadi spoke in a controlled voice as he sat in the defendant's bench.

"The USA wants to destroy mosques. The USA is preparing for new aggression in Lebanon," he said.

The chief judge asked him: "Do you find attacks and hijackings against the USA justified?"

"I'm not convinced that all forms of fighting are correct. I will condemn a hijacker once I know why he did it," he said, referring to the Holy Quran which says "fight those who fight you, but don't attack those that don't attack you."

Mohammed Hamadi has been charged with air piracy and murder in the 1985 hijacking to Beirut, in which 39 Americans were held captive for 17 days and a US Navy diver was slain.

Abbas Hamadi, who is serving a 13-year sentence for kidnapping, had been scheduled to testify at the trial of his younger brother.

Wearing a checkered jacket, Abbas Hamadi was led into the Frankfurt courtroom under heavy guard.

"I want to give a statement," the 29-year-old, bearded witness said.

Then chief judge asked him: "Will you testify?"

Abbas, who spoke in German throughout the 10-minute exchange, replied: "No."

The chief judge said: "We have no more room for statements," but eventually allowed Abbas to start.



Mubarak raps divisions within PLO

CAIRO, July 20, (AP) — President Hosni Mubarak criticised today divisions within the Palestine Liberation Organisation, saying they were hampering progress toward Middle East peace and making life difficult for Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

In a speech marking the 36th anniversary of the military-led revolution that overthrew the monarchy, Mubarak also expressed anger at attacks on Egypt by some PLO officials and said: "Everything has its limits."

He rejected as groundless a contention by one official that Egypt's 1979 peace treaty with Israel was restricting Cairo's support of the PLO in the search for a Palestinian settlement with the Jewish state.

"Yasser Arafat is among the most flexible people, but his difficulty is that (other PLO leaders) are unable to agree among themselves," Mubarak told a gathering of senior government officials and foreign diplomats at the headquarters of his National Democratic Party.

He cited as an example a statement by Bassam Abu-Sharif, an adviser to Arafat, last month in which he proposed direct talks with Israel and the establishment of a Palestinian state alongside the Jewish state. The proposal caused controversy within the PLO and was rejected by Israel.

Dynamite

Mubarak said that two senior PLO officials "dynamited" Abu Sharif's statement a few days after it was issued. The President identified them as Salah Khalaf, Arafat's second-in-command in the Fatah faction who goes by the code-name Abu Iyad, and Farouk Kaddoumi, director of the PLO's political department.

"The two men shattered Abu-Sharif's initiative as though the man was working alone on an isolated island," Mubarak said. Addressing PLO leaders, Mubarak said: "You should get together and agree. Without agreement among the various factions, how can (the peace) process go forward? This would be impossible."

Mubarak blamed friction within the PLO also for the collapse of its 1985 agreement with Jordan on a co-ordinated strategy in peacemaking efforts. Jordan's King Hussein said the accord broke down because PLO leaders had reneged on a pledge to accept United Nations resolutions that imply recognition of Israel's existence within secure and recognised boundaries.

Minister resigns over deaths in prison van

41 Burmese die of suffocation

BANGKOK, July 20 (UPI) — Forty-one people died of tear-gas inhalation and suffocation in an overcrowded prison van after they were rounded up during riots in the Burmese capital in March, official government radio has reported for the first time.

The Rangoon Radio report late last night said Home and Religious Affairs Minister Min Gaung resigned from his post to take responsibility for the deaths.

The report came as the ruling Burma Socialist Programme Party prepared for an extraordinary party congress on Saturday called to discuss worsening economic problems that have shaken the 26-year rule of Gen. Ne Win.

Previously, the government had officially admitted only two deaths in the March riots led by anti-government students, but diplomatic sources said that dozens of people were killed.

The radio said that the report on the 41 deaths was held back "in consideration of the law and order situation and to contain rioting" that has hit several Burmese cities in the past five months.

Crammed

Rangoon Radio said that on March 18 many riot suspects were arrested by security forces and crammed aboard closed prison trucks to be taken to the Rangoon's Insein Prison.

"The journey, which normally took 45 minutes, took two hours," the radio said.

"When one of the trucks carrying 71 persons arrived at Insein jail, 41 persons were found to be dead."

An inquiry by the local township doctor and judges committee concluded the prisoners "died from tear-gas inhalation and suffocation in overloaded prison trucks," the radio said.

The broadcast also gave a

fuller account of the riots, describing stone-throwing mobs of up to 1,000 people attacking police and destroying government property.

The radio said angry mobs, earlier reported as led by students from the Institute of Technology in Rangoon, rampaged through the capital torching vehicles, ransacking state stores and demolishing traffic lights.

The rioters also stoned the Thumada Hotel, where Western tourists often stay, and destroyed the offices of the Department of Health, it said.

Tear gas

It said police used tear gas to disperse the crowds, but made no mention of gunshots which some witnesses said were fired by security forces.

The March riots were followed by more unrest in June in which the government reported five policemen and one civilian were

killed. Again, diplomatic sources said the death toll was believed to be higher.

Last week, the riots spread to the northern town of Taunggyi, where four people were reported killed.

On Sunday, the violence hit the central Burmese city of Pyaw, where one person was killed when police opened fire on stone-throwing mobs.

Diplomats said the disturbances, although sparked by local incidents, reflected popular anger and frustration with Ne Win's military-dominated socialist regime.

Despite abundant national resources, the Burmese economy has stagnated under heavy-handed central planning and determined isolationism.

In March, Burma was forced to seek "least developed developing country" status at the United Nations in order to write off much of its \$4 billion foreign debt.

Only US can stop Pakistan from making N-bomb

NEW DELHI, July 20, (Reuters) — Only the United States can stop Pakistan building a nuclear bomb, Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was quoted as saying today.

"It is the United States and no other country which could stop the Pakistani nuclear programme," the Press Trust of India quoted Rajiv as saying.

Purposes

The news agency said he made the remarks to reporters travelling back to India with him after a 10-day tour of Jordan, Yugoslavia, Turkey and Spain.

Rajiv said he had been in constant touch with Washington to persuade Pakistan to stop developing nuclear weapons.

Egypt accused of torturing political detainees

LONDON, July 20, (Reuters) — Amnesty International accused Egypt today of torturing political detainees and urged its government to take urgent steps to end the practice.

The London-based human rights organisation said evidence collected since 1981 indicated a "continuing pattern of torture" by Egyptian security and other officials.

It said scores of torture reports had been received since mid-1986, including allegations made in 1988. The alleged victims were mostly supporters of Islamic fundamentalist groups.

In a press statement, Amnesty called on the Egyptian government "to take urgent and effective measures to protect political detainees from torture and ill-treatment in prisons and detention centres."

Amnesty said it was releasing the statement in the wake of acquittals in Cairo last month of 44 security, prison and police officials accused of torturing political prisoners between 1981 and 1983.

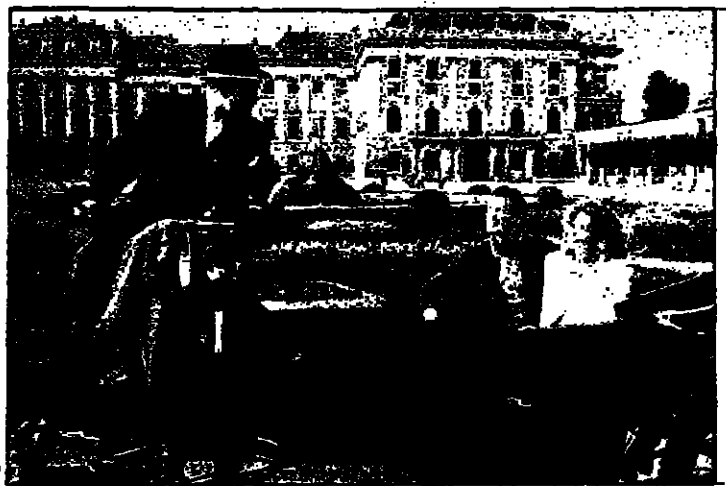
The organisation said former detainees who alleged they had been tortured by some of the officers acquitted in the Cairo trial were among those it had interviewed.

Amnesty said parts of its evidence came from other alleged torture victims it had interviewed as well as medical reports by the Egyptian Ministry of Justice's forensic medicine department.

Meanwhile, Amnesty welcomed a commitment by Philippines President Corason Aquino to prosecute members of the security forces suspected of slaying human rights activists.

In a meeting in Manila with Ian Martin, secretary-general of the human rights organisation, Mrs Aquino pledged in such cases to waive a law that shields the military and police from trial in civilian courts. Amnesty said.

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Iran's downturn weakens radicals' morale

Hezbollah faces fast decline

MARAJAYOUN, July 20, (Reuters) — Lebanon's Muslim fundamentalist Hezbollah has been weakened by Iranian setbacks in its war with Iraq, and Tehran's acceptance of a United Nations ceasefire may hasten a political and military decline of the party.

Iranian acceptance of the UN Security Council resolution 598 could also signal a possible change of heart on the part of the captors of 18 foreigners held hostage in Lebanon.

Israeli sources in Israel's self-declared security zone in southern Lebanon and diplomatic sources told Reuters hours before Iran said it would accept a UN-sponsored ceasefire that Hezbollah's morale had been sapped by recent reverses in the Gulf war.

"The ideological element I am

sure is weakening," said colonel Haim Ariv, Israeli co-ordinator for civilian affairs in southern Lebanon.

But it could be lack of money not military muscle that eventually seals Hezbollah's fate, he said. Iran pays Hezbollah \$100 million a year, according to unofficial sources.

Hezbollah is widely reported by foreign media to be behind the kidnapping of 18 foreigners in Lebanon in attempts to wrest political concessions from Western states on behalf of Iran.

Although the small well-armed party denies any links with the abduction, Iran and its Lebanese allies are seen by diplomats as holding the key to their fate.

One Beirut-based diplomat said it was too early to say what impact Iran's acceptance of the

UN resolution ordering a Gulf war ceasefire would have on the lives of the captives.

"If Iran should seek to mend fences with the West in the wake of an implementation of a ceasefire, or if the ceasefire prompts a power-struggle within the Iranian leadership, we could see a change of heart on the hostage issue," he said.

In south Lebanon, where Israel and its allies of the mainly Christian South Lebanon Army (SLA) control a border zone, it is the military and ideological prowess of Hezbollah that commands attention.

Hezbollah first emerged in east Lebanon's Bekaa Valley in the wake of the 1982 Israeli invasion. Several hundred Iranian revolutionary guards began training the force, estimated at about 5,000 well-armed fighters.

Taiwan inducts young men into cabinet

TAIPEI, July 20, (Reuters) — A sweeping reshuffle of Taiwan's cabinet announced today puts young technocrats in charge of the economy.

Financial reform and economic restructuring are key challenges faced by President Lee Teng-hui, who replaced five of eight heads of government ministries, including the ministers of finance and economic affairs.

Premier Yu Kuo-Hua retained his job despite calls by government reformers for his resignation.

Lee has packed the new cabinet with leaders who, like himself, are Western-educated

technocrats and are expected to back his political and economic reform. Five of eight ministers are now native Taiwanese.

Shirley Kuo, a 58-year-old economist, becomes Taiwan's first woman cabinet minister and will take the finance portfolio. She replaces Robert Chien, regarded as a financial arch-conservative who has been blocking plans to privatise state-owned banks and corporations.

Economic Minister Lee Tai-Hai will step down in favour of the 51-year-old head of the National Science Council, Chen Li-An, who is a trained engineer. Joining them in the top economic slots will be Fredrick Chien,

53, whose new job as head of the cabinet-level Council for Economic Planning and Development (CEPD) is regarded as a stepping-stone to the premiership.

Chien was recalled from a diplomatic posting in the United States and is expected to help formulate a long-term economic relationship with Taiwan's main trading partner.

"I have no doubt they will step up economic and financial reforms," said Henry Hsu, chairman of the huge Formosa Rubber Corporation.

"They are aggressive and capable," said Charles Chien, spokesman for the Taiwan Textile Federation.

REQUIEM MASS



Antonio & Dorothy Extrochio

A requiem mass will be offered for Antonio and Dorothy Extrochio at the Holy Family Cathedral (Chapel) on 23rd July at 10 am

Offered by Jean, Joy, Paul, Elvis, Edwin and son-in-law Rudolph and relatives.

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Valuable gifts from Kleenex Diapers "HUGGIES SUPERTRIM" against exchanging coupons available on the covers at the following exchange centres:

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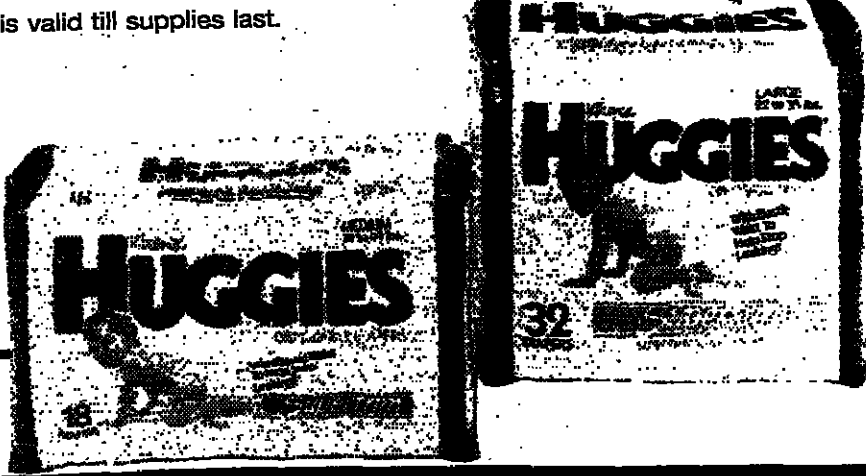
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KUWAIT ... GULF

Nothing short of whole F-18 package will be accepted
Kuwait's request for arms is legitimate

KUWAIT will not accept anything less than the whole \$1.9 billion arms package from the United States, Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed has said.

He also said: "Kuwait is a peaceful country and does not want to enter into conflict with any other nation or direct its arms against any one."

Request

Kuwait has requested the US to sell advanced F-18 warplanes and Maverick missiles.

But, the US Senate has deleted the Mavericks from the sale.

"Our request for American armaments including F-18 warplanes is a legitimate one and is part of Kuwait's policy of diversifying arms resources for the sake of defending our country against any aggression," Sheikh Nawaf asserted.

He accused Israel and the Zionist lobby in the US of being in the way of the Kuwaiti request.

"We know that Israel is behind this propaganda campaign against the deal and has pushed some members of Congress to oppose it. Furthermore, the Zionist lobby is not only against American arms sales to Arab countries but uses all means to thwart Arab arms acquisitions," he said.

He added: "We want our men to look into secrets of military industries and get to the keys of these industries as some Arab countries have done. We don't think this is impossible."

Cause

Sheikh Nawaf said that the visit of HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah to the US last week has led to a strengthening of Arab-American relations.

The minister said the trip contributed to the cause of peace and security in the Arabian Gulf region.

Sheikh Nawaf added that the visit turned a new page in Kuwaiti-American relations "at all levels and in all fields."

He said British Defence Minister George Younger had offered, during a visit to Kuwait last week, sales of advanced armaments to Kuwait.

Respect

Sheikh Nawaf said he told the British official that Kuwait needs time to consider the British offer, which reportedly includes the Tornado warplane should Kuwait's request for the American F-18s fail to go through Congress.

Sheikh Nawaf expressed hope that peace and mutual respect would be restored between Iran and Iraq following Tehran's announcement that it has accepted the UN Security Council Resolution 598.

"We had happily received the news. I believe this is an honourable way to peace in the region,"

Cultural co-operation programmes

THE National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters has prepared cultural and scientific co-operation programmes with Malaysia, Bulgaria, Hungary, the US, the UAE and Italy.

A report, published yesterday on the Council's activities for the month of June, said that the Council has invited a number of specialists on child theatre to set up a study and preliminary concepts for child theatre in Kuwait.

The report added, under the series of the world of knowledge, that the Council has published a new issue of the series entitled "Foreign languages, their instruction and learning."

It said that the Council has already chosen art works to take part at the international Cairo exhibition and invited some top artists from inside and outside the country to hold their exhibitions here.

The number of researchers and readers at the central library last month neared 1,000, while visitors slightly topped 3,000.

Arms purchase

King Fahd reiterates policy of diversification

KING Fahd of Saudi Arabia has reiterated his country's policy of diversifying arms sources.

King Fahd told a Kuwaiti weekly: "We buy arms from friendly countries according to the needs of our defence forces."

Serves

"We think diversification of arms sources serves our armed forces," he said.

Saudi Arabia recently concluded a multi-billion dollar deal with Britain for Tornado jet fighters, helicopters, patrol boats and minehunters.

It had earlier bought Chinese medium-range ground-to-ground missiles. Israel bitterly criticised both deals, saying they posed a threat to its security.

Asked about the Israeli reaction, King Fahd said: "The goal of Zionism is that Saudi Arabia be a state unable to defend the Islamic holy places," a reference to Islam's holiest shrines in Mecca and Medina.

King Fahd said the kingdom this year has taken additional steps to provide security, convenience and tranquility for pilgrims.

The monarch said his government would stand firm to thwart any attempt to sow terrorism, chaos or subversion during haj.

Accused

He accused enemies of the Arab and Islamic world of plotting to sow discord and prevent Arab and Islamic unity, solidarity and cohesion.

But he stressed that bilateral, regional and collective Arab and Islamic co-operation would thwart all these attempts to destabilise the region.

ROYAL COURT

Amiri cable

HH the Amir sent a cable of congratulations to the President of Colombia on the occasion of his country's national day.

Some Iranians performing haj

RIYADH, July 20. (Reuter): Some Iranians have arrived in Saudi Arabia to perform the pilgrimage (haj) to Makkah, the interior minister said in an interview published here today.

Limited

Prince Nayef told the Arab News: "A very limited number of Iranian pilgrims have arrived in the kingdom and they are performing the haj ceremonies in peace and security like their brother pilgrims from every corner of the world."

He did not say how many. Tehran boycotted this year's haj after rejecting a new quota system by Riyadh which cut the

number of potential Iranian pilgrims from 150,000 to 45,000.

Nayef, whose country severed diplomatic ties with Tehran last April and accused it of financing terrorism and sabotage, criticised the Iranian boycott.

Regard
"We regard the ban as a political decision taken by the Tehran rulers without considering the feelings and interests of the Iranian people," he said.

New law for firms in the offing

A LOCAL daily quoted the Assistant Undersecretary for Commercial Affairs at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry Rasheed Al Mijren as stating that a new law for commercial firms has been prepared.

This bill supersedes the current law which was issued in 1960 and has been drawn up in the light of the country's development requirements and to match modern comparative legislations.

The assistant undersecretary clarified that the current bill had been enacted after more than a quarter century during which period the country had witnessed gigantic strides in different fields. Further, he said, the commercial law were applicable to the economic situation and it had become imperative to bridge the loophole in the current legislation by enacting the new law.

Al Mijren disclosed that the bill had been referred to the concerned authorities for finalisation.

Iran's decision hailed

BAHRAIN, July 20. (Agencies): Leaders continued to hail Iran's acceptance of United Nations Security Council Resolution 598 calling for a ceasefire in the Gulf war.

Sudan's Supreme Council chairman Idris Al Banna said in a statement that the Iranian move would contribute to stability in the Gulf.

Hostilities
He said the end of hostilities would free "capabilities for confronting the common Zionist enemy" Israel — and "freeing" Jerusalem.

The Foreign Minister of Nepal, Shaileendra Kumar Upadhyaya welcoming the decision hoped the move would end the war.

Urged

"This is an important step towards ending a long drawn war between two Non-aligned states which has claimed the lives of a million people of both sides during the last eight years."

The Arab League urged speedy implementation of the UN resolution.

PLO chairman Yasser Arafat said Iran's announcement will help achieve an immediate ceasefire and restore peace between the two belligerent countries.

The ceasefire will be the beginning of a new stage which will positively affect most of the situation in the region especially the Palestinian cause, he added.

Contribute

Two radical Palestinian commando groups, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) said an end to the Gulf war would contribute positively in directing more resources for the Palestinian cause.

In Beirut, Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, the spiritual guide of pro-Iranian Hezbollah commended Tehran's decision.

"Iran's decision stems from

utmost wisdom, foresight and courage," Fadlallah said.

In London, British Foreign Office Minister David Mellor reaffirmed today to the GCC Secretary-General that Britain welcomes the Iranian decision to accept the UN Resolution 598, calling for an end to the Gulf war.

Speaking to KUNA and a small group of journalists following his meeting with Abdullah Bishara, Mellor expressed the hope that the Iranian move would mark "the beginning of the end" of the Gulf war.

Assured

In his remarks, the minister pointed out that he also assured Bishara that "there was no question of Britain withdrawing its armed patrol in the Gulf until we are sure that peace has broken out."

Meanwhile, Mellor assured Bishara of Britain's continued support for the Gulf Co-operation Council, "which is one of the most positive developments in the region."

New main gate of Shuwaikh port opened

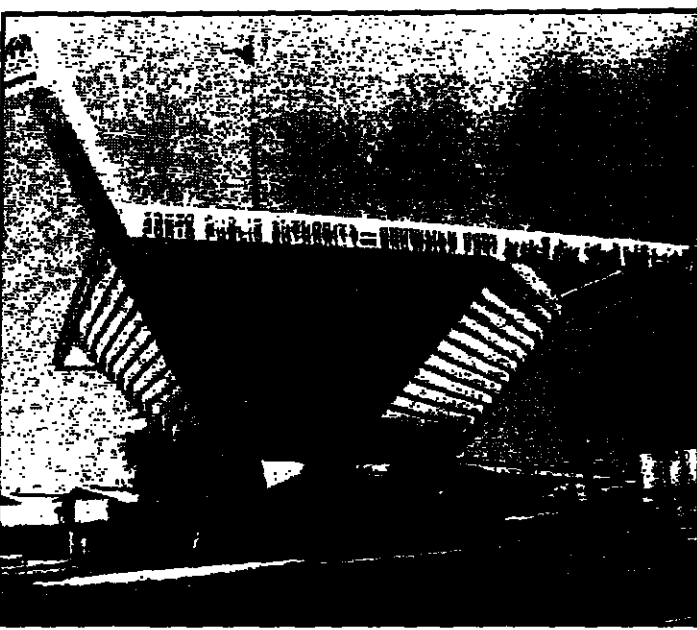
Ending of war will have positive effect

THE Minister of State for Service Affairs and board chairman of the Ports Public Authority Issa Al Mazidi said the cessation of the Iran-Iraq war will have a positive effect on business in the region and will activate the trading business in particular in the Gulf.

He said trade by sea would increase and there was now no need for the extra financial dues imposed by marine insurance companies on vessels plying the Gulf waters.

Speaking to newsmen at the opening of the new main Shuwaikh port gate and the bridge connecting the stores to the port that these two projects will ease traffic pressure to and from Kuwait City.

Concluding he said the completion of the grand port com-



The new main gate of Shuwaikh port.

plex is expected in 89/90 and the project would include offices, marine agencies and overland transport as well as marine insurance companies and some government offices.

Humid days ahead

By Mahmoud Morsi

THE meteorological department has predicted a slight drop in temperature accompanied by an increase in humidity during the Eid Al Adha holidays.

The head of the weather forecast section Bader Al Ajil said that the annual period of the so called "humid summer" began yesterday and will continue till Nov 4.

During this period, humid weather will prevail with southeasterly winds predominant. Some of the waves will be very hot caused by warm northeasterly winds. The average temperature during July and August will be around 45-46 degrees centigrade (113-115 F), he said.

During the Eid holidays, Al Ajil said that Kuwait will be affected by an Asian atmospheric depression that will be centred over the Arabian peninsula. This will make south easterly winds predominant, thus increasing the relative humidity to about 50 per cent and perhaps much more near the coast.

He said that humidity will be the most during noon and advised people to keep indoors during this period.

5th Marine Week will be biggest such event so far

THE director of the sea clubs department and head of the higher committee for the 5th Marine Week, Abdul Hadi Yaqoub said that the committee has completed preparation for opening the Marine Week on Aug. 4.

In a press conference held yesterday, he added that the celebrations would be the biggest held so far.

The programme will last for nine days and will be held at most sea clubs, the coastal front, the Entertainment City, Al Shaab garden and Messilah beach.

The programme will consist of a variety of activities and entertainment contests at which more than 300 youths will participate.

Support for summer clubs

ANWAR Al Nouri, the Minister of Education and Acting Minister of Higher Education, told newsmen at the Bayan Summer Club for Girls that the ministry paid great attention to the workings of summer clubs and the activity programmes developed for the members, and provided all possible support for them.

He said that work camps were not a substitute for summer clubs, as both had different objectives, but stressed the importance of both as means to the productive utilisation of members' leisure time under specialised supervision.

He pointed out that the ministry was considering plans to provide activity plans for girls, which would require co-ordination with relevant companies and institutions.

4 AIDS cases detected

DR RASHED Al Umairi, the director of the public health and training department at the Ministry of Public Health, has revealed that four cases of AIDS have been discovered among the expatriate workforce since March 1, 1988, in addition to 100 cases of TB and six cases of filariasis.

He added that they were discovered by the special centres in Shuwaikh and Ahmedi that examine expatriate workers arriving in Kuwait for the first time. The two centres examined about 45,000 workers between March 1 and the middle of July and those found to be infected with AIDS were deported.

The lab tests also discovered 160 cases of malaria among the newly-arrived workers who are now being treated in Kuwait hospitals.

Al Umairi pointed out that the screening project would help to prevent the infiltration of fatal diseases, but denied that the ministry had a plan to open more centres.

He did, however, reveal a plan to amalgamate the two present centres and that the ministry was studying the extension of the AIDS screening programme to include maids, servants and other workers.

Making Kuwait green

A RELIABLE source at the Public Authority for Agriculture and Fish Wealth said the authority is working according to the national plan to make Kuwait green.

The project under an Amiri decree is scheduled to start next September.

Meanwhile, the Animal Health Department of the authority has begun a campaign to vaccinate cattle against the foot and mouth disease.

Vets and supervisors of the department will begin the campaign everyday morning and evening and cover farms at Sulaibiya, Abdali and Wafra areas.

The department has mobilised eight specialised teams for the purpose, the source added.

Young Omanis to replace Western military officers

BAHRAIN, July 20. (Reuter): Oman is planning to replace its mainly British armed forces commanders with a new breed of young Omani officers, diplomats in the Gulf said today.

Most key posts in the 21,500-strong Omani forces are held by British officers who are part of one of Britain's largest military loan-service to a friendly state.

The London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies puts the number of foreigners with the armed forces at 3,700.

Replacement

There are also some British officers working under contract in Oman.

Western diplomats say replacement of all the foreigners running the armed forces could take between five and 10 years.

Scores of young Omanis are now enrolled in local and foreign military academies training to replace the Western experts, diplomats said.

Oman's monarch Sultan Qaboos Bin Said, who was trained at Britain's Royal Military Academy (Sandhurst) called it "Omanisation" of the forces.

His country occupies a strategic position at the entrance of the Gulf and shares with Iran control of the narrow Strait of Hormuz. Its 1,700-km (1,062 miles) coastline overlooks the Gulf, the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea.

Muscat's plan to appoint Omanis did not reflect on excellent Omani-British ties but is part of a process to replace foreigners with nationals in several fields including the oil industry, the diplomats said.

Training

The state's Petroleum Development Oman (PDO) announced on Monday a five-year training programme for 650 nationals who will later join the company.

The Omanis want their hands on the levers but still have close relationship with Britain, "one regional military expert said.

The diplomats were commenting today on remarks the previous day by Minister of State for Defence Mutasim Bin Hamoud Al Bousaidi which raised questions about the future of British officers serving in Oman.

Sultan Qaboos "wants Omanisation to move at top speed and during the shortest time possible on condition it is done with vision, wisdom and positiveness," the minister said.

"We have prepared young qualified leaders who have taken their posts and responsibilities," Al Bousaidi added.

Al Bousaidi said Sultan Qaboos, who is also defence minister, was keener on the quality of the Omani officers than on their numbers.

"Ten well-trained pilots are always better than 50 mediocre ones," he quoted the Sultan as saying.

Take up

Omani officers now at British and American military academies are expected to return to take up key posts in Oman, diplomats said. The middle ranks of the forces would be filled with graduates from military schools in Oman and other Arab countries.

"It is only a matter of time and the Omanis will command executive roles in their Army. But it could take some time," one diplomat said.

Al Bousaidi said Omanis were keen to join the Army. "The youth are enthusiastic to join ... great numbers which exceed demand (apply) and we have the benefit of picking the best," the minister told the Oman daily.

The Army almost doubled in the past decade, he said. In 1980 the force consisted of about 14,200 volunteers.

The Sultan on Monday attended the graduation of the first batch of officers from a local staff college, while other attend courses in Saudi Arabia and Egypt.

Ties

Oman has good political and trade ties with Iran and agrees with Tehran that a large foreign naval presence in the Gulf, including the US fleet, should be scaled down.

Despite the strong links with Iran, Muscat has a 1980 accord with Washington for the use of Omani bases in cases of emergency.

The agreement has not been put into effect but US forces in the region have in the past used Omani military facilities and held joint exercises.

Dubai's age-old air-conditioners face the bulldozers

By Mark Fisher

DUBAI, July 20. (Reuter): By the waterfront in bustling Dubai stand a cluster of old windtowers designed to channel cooling breezes to rooms below in the days before the advent of the modern air-conditioner.

Soon the coral-stone towers, a big tourist attraction in this wealthy Gulf port, will be flattened by bulldozers to make way for redevelopment.

Bastakiya, an area of about 20 mostly cracking and peeling windtower houses, huddled together in a city of smart hotels and shopping arcades, faces the developers in mid-August.

"Bastakiya is unique in the Gulf," said British architect David Otter, who lives in a two-storey windtower house with

intricate stonework built 90 years ago by a wealthy merchant. "There are other towers in Dubai, Iran, Pakistan and elsewhere, but nowhere in this region are so many grouped together and so well-preserved," he said.

The light-brown windtowers, the tallest about 60 feet (18 metres) high, stand like giant chimneys above the houses they help keep cool in the stifling, humid summer heat.

The towers, some elegantly carved, are roofed and have large openings on all four sides designed to catch the breeze. The hotels are funnel-shaped to speed up the passage of air.

"The wind is caught whichever way it comes from," Otter said. "It rushes down inside one side of the tower into the room below and then up a different channel in the opposite side of the tower."

Invented

The result is a cooling breeze, an early air-conditioning system that may have been invented in Persia and has been used for well over 1,000 years.

Early this century, when Bastakiya was one of the smarter districts of this old trading centre, windtower dwellers hung wet sacks in the towers to make the rooms below even cooler.

Nowadays modern air-conditioners cool many of Bastakiya's houses and most of the elegant towers that adorn them have been blocked up.

Many of the buildings, with finely carved wooden doors and flagstone courtyards, are neglected and crumbling.

Bastakiya's residents are considered poor by the standards of Dubai, which has grown rich quickly in the past 20 years on oil-wealth.

Yet smart new Mercedes and BMWs clog the narrow, sandy alleyways that thread between the windtower houses, called 'badgers' in Farsi.

Attracted

The district, traditionally an Iranian quarter, has attracted some European and Indian families in recent years.

A few windtower homes are well looked after, but at substantial cost — the coral stone exudes salt which peels off paint, requiring the stonework to be recoated every three months.

Seen from across the creek that winds through Dubai, where cargo-laden dhows ply to and from Iran, the windtowers are a picturesque landmark close to the palace of ruler Sheikh Rashid Bin Said Al Maktoum.

Too close, perhaps. An official who declined to be named said fears over palace security were one reason for the government's decision in July to demolish Bastakiya, giving residents one month's notice to move out and offering compensation to landlords.

Officials have said the area will be redeveloped, but have not said how. Residents believe a car park is a possibility.

A nearby district with a smaller number of windtowers, where Sheikh Rashid was brought up, has been earmarked for preservation. Restoration of some houses has already taken

place at government expense.

As for Bastakiya, foreign tourists may be more likely to mourn the demolition of the towers and the houses they served than the residents.

"The buildings are old and we will be rehoused. So what does it matter if these towers are knocked down?" one resident said.

Arab children's gathering

A DELEGATION of students returned yesterday after participating in the eighth Arab children's gathering held in the Jordanian capital from June 26th till July 4th. The event was patronised by Queen Nour Al Husain.

The delegation was headed by Fatimah Al Qabandi and comprised of Fatimah Al Bdah, Adnan Al Jarallah, Sabih Al Mukaizeim and Mishari Al Munayez, all students.

The opening speech was delivered by Fatimah Al Bdah and the delegation participated in several activities including folklore and national songs.

The head of the delegation Fatimah Al Qabandi on arrival said that the gathering constituted a congress for the children and provided them with the opportunity of representing their country through the activities extended at the gathering.

Al Qabandi expressed appreciation to the Jordanian government for their patronage extended to the Kuwaiti delegation.

Officials accustomed to summer rush



A rush hour scene at a Kuwait Airways counter at the airport.

KUWAIT International Airport each summer remains very busy. A local daily interviewed airport officials to know what are the problems they face during summer.

Schedule

The deputy director of Kuwait International Airport, Issa Al Issa says it is common to be confronted with the number of travellers each summer and airport officials are accustomed to deal with travellers' problems.

He added that most of the problems are due to travellers' non-compliance with the departure schedule. Travellers should arrive at the airport three hours before departure he advised.

Al Issa disclosed that he anticipates lesser travellers this summer than last year, namely due to some preferring to spend their vacations in the country to enjoy entertainment programmes provided by the government.

According to airport statistics 1,308,000 travellers departed from Kuwait airport in 1984 with arrivals placed at 285,000. In 1987 departures were 816,000 and arrivals 807,000.

The airport controller Abdul Hamid Dashed says that airport officials and workers are on 24 hour duty to provide travellers with comfort and to facilitate travelling requirements. He said each traveller is permitted standard weight of baggage.

However, there were frequent problems due to travellers insisting on carrying baggage beyond the specified limit of weighing scale which is 80 kilograms he added.

FOR SALE

Toyota Corolla Model - 1982 Automatic
Contact: Pakistan Embassy between 8 am & 2 pm.

EVENTS

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum

The museum will be open to the public from 5 pm on the second and third day of Eid Al Adha. After Eid, it will be open every evening from 5 pm and from 9 am on Friday.

Islamic Arts Museum

The museum, located on Arab Gulf Street, is open from 8.30 am to 12.30 noon and 4.30 to 7.30 pm, Saturday to Thursday. A collection of the finest Islamic art objects are on show.

Tareq Rajab Museum

The museum in Jabriya houses a collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world. Summer timings are 9 am to 12 noon and 4 to 7 pm, Sat. thru Thurs. On Friday the museum is open only in the mornings.

SOCIAL

German-Speaking Cultural Association

The regular coffee mornings for ladies will continue on a small scale during the summer months. Coffee mornings will be held on Sunday, August 7 at Kuwait Hilton's La Patisserie from 10 am on those days. All German-speaking women are welcome.

Open-House on Eid

On the occasion of Eid Al Adha the Charge d'Affaires of Bangladesh Embassy Mohsin Ali Khan will hold an open-house on Sunday, July 24, from 6 to 8 pm, at his residence, House No. 183, Plot No. 43, Block No. 8 (near Hadi Clinic), Jabriya. (Tel. 3314737). All Bangladeshis are welcome.

Eid Milan

The Pakistan Ambassador and officials of the embassy will hold Eid Milan for the Pakistan community on July 25, second day of Eid, from 10 am to 12 noon at the Chancery Bldg.

Summer Belle '88

The United Goans Centre will hold their annual Summer Belle '88 contest on August 11 at the SAS Hotel's The Tent. The gala event marks the 10th anniversary of UGC. Entertainment includes music by Stepping Stones and City Limits. For further details contact Tony Gonzales 2612024 or De Fernandes 3653140.

D'Assisi Association

The association will hold a social evening with a variety show on August 11 at Messilah Beach Hotel. The event is part of the 40th anniversary of Indian independence. Top Ranks and Next of Kin will be in attendance. For details contact Leena — 2469811, 9.30 am to 5 pm; Henry 3291909 (am), 3717346 (pm) or Augustin 5746754 after 6 pm.

Onam Festival

The Viswabhathi Theatres, Abbassiya, will celebrate Onam on Aug 25 at the Indian Arts Circle. IAC President M. Mathews will be the chief patron. The programme comprises Onam songs, Mohiniyattam, classical dances, Thiruvathirakkali, folk dances, light music, one-act play, boat race and Kerala rural arts. Those interested in taking part contact Lazar Varghese — 4314511; Thomas Perumpilly — 4810490 ext. 207; Verghese Paradayil — 2422973.



● Kuwait Meridien Hotel's staff get set for the Eid guests. The hotel will feature special lunch and dinner buffets, and a la carte, during the Eid Al Adha holidays.

YMCA

The YMCA will present the "Come September Ball" at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel on September 1. Highlights include the selection of the Queen of Queens. Top Ranks will be in attendance.

IAC Ghazal Evening

The Indian Arts Circle (IAC) will hold a ghazal-cum-dance evening on July 28, Thursday, 7.30 pm, at the IAC, Funtaites, to celebrate Eid Al Adha. All IAC members and their guests are welcome. For entry passes contact — 3904817.

HOTELS

At the Holiday Inn

Tropical melon delights are being promoted in various outlets at the hotel. Al Ahmadi Coffee Shop offers Continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner from 6 am to 1 am; a la carte also offered.

On Thursday, enjoy Oriental music and food at the Oriental Night at the Al Andalus Supper Club. Al Dana offers a special treat for children at the Friday brunch, open from 11.30 am to 3 pm, featuring games, gifts and lots of surprises.

At the Meridien

La Brasserie offers Friday brunch from 12 noon to 4 pm; also open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner. During the Eid holidays, the restaurant will offer special buffets featuring a selection of Arabic and European cuisine. Piano music will be provided.

Beat the summer heat with cool juices offered in the lobby lounge; musical entertainment is provided in the evenings.

At the Sheraton

Special buffet lunches and dinners will be featured in the Al Hamba restaurant during the Eid holidays. Authentic Lebanese cuisine is featured every Sunday night; seafood specialties offered on Wednesdays and a sumptuous buffet featured on Fridays. Entertainment provided by the Lords.

Dine in the Riccardo restaurant to enjoy Italian cuisine; music by the Sienna Duo. Riccardo is closed on Fridays. The Hunt Room will offer an Eid lunch buffet on the first and second days of Eid Al Adha in addition to a la carte. A selection of meat and fish dishes will be offered for lunch and dinner.

Entertainment is provided by the solo harpist, Harp Dreams. Le Tarbouche will offer lunch and dinner buffets featuring Arab cuisine during the Eid holidays.

At the Ramada

El Bender Coffee Shop offers continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner from 6 am to 12 midnight; a la carte also featured.

The Take-Away counter, open daily from 4 pm to 11 pm, offers a selection of Arabic sandwiches and snacks.

The Lobby Lounge offers a selection of coffee, tea, juice, cakes and pastries.

At the Hilton

La Palma has introduced a lunch and dinner buffet cycle featuring a variety of Arabic and international dishes, souffles, mezzes, salads and desserts to suit all tastes. Open daily from 6.30 am to midnight. Beat the summer heat at the La Patisserie, offering ice cream creations, fresh fruit juice and fruit cocktail creations. Open daily from 10.30 am to 10.45 pm. In the evenings, listen to piano music played by the in-house pianist Richard.

At the Continental

The Gardenia will offer special dinner buffets featuring Arabic, Continental and Indian specialties during the Eid holidays.

The Darbar offers a daily lunch buffet with a wide range of Indian kebabs and curries. A la carte for dinner.

SPORTS

14th Winners Cup cricket tournament

The YMCA will hold the All Kuwait Open 14th Winners Cup cricket tournament, beginning September. It will be played on Fridays and holidays at the KOC ground, Ahmadi. Teams wishing to participate can contact Joe D'Sa, Tel: 3981790, 3-5 pm; 3924659, 5-8 pm.

PBAK bowling tournament

THE PBAK inter-commercial bowling tournament will be held in the second week of August. All companies wishing to take part are requested to register on or before August 7 at the 300 Club. For details contact PBAK director Sarah Macarimbang.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 9.00 Holy Quran
- 9.25 Space Adventure: cartoons
- 10.15 Thamar Al Shok: daily serial, with Abdul Munim Madbouli, Rashwan Tawfiq, Fatima Tabae
- 11.00 News Summary
- 11.05 Ablah Munira: local serial, starring Khalid Al Nafisi, Muna Jabar, Saad Ardash, Dawood Hussein, Mohammad Manea
- 12.00 Good Morning/News
- 12.15 International Circus
- 1.50 Fawazir Al Munasabat: featuring Yahya Fakhrani, Sabirin, Hala Fuad
- 2.30 Fursan Al Hikmah: Arabic serial
- 3.35 Bill and Sebastian: cartoon serial
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.15 The Saint: featuring Roger Moore
- 5.00 Liqa Al Khamis: weekly local show
- 7.00 Al Farooqiya Wal Zaman: prepared and presented by Mohiuddin Qudoor
- 7.45 With Islam: prepared and presented by Dr Khalid al Madhkur
- 8.30 Wa Qalat Al Arab: "And the Arab Said" ... daily serial
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 10.00 Asfoor Lahu Anyab: Arabic film: starring Hassan Yusuf, Yusra, Salah Qabil
- 12.00 Late Night Variety Show presented by Amina Al Sharah
- 1.00 News Summary/Holy Quran/Closedown

FRIDAY

- 9.00 Holy Quran
- 9.15 Space Adventure: Cartoons
- 9.30 Children's Magazine
- 10.15 Al Saif Al Mafkoud: children's serial

featuring Abdul Aziz Haddad, Ahmad Al Hazim, Ali Al Mufedi

10.45 Prophet's Sayings: hadith, religious programme, presented by Dr Ahmadi Abul Noor

11.15 Friday Prayers

12.25 Rida Wal Noor: religious serial, hosted by Kariman Hamza

1.00 News Summary

1.05 World News via Satellite

1.35 Songs and Music

2.00 Preview of Next Week's Viewing

2.30 Hadith Deeni: religious talk by Sheikh Mohammad Mutwali Sharawi

4.15 Arabic feature film: Al Hayat Al Hub Murad, Yahya Shahin

5.45 Cartoons

6.15 Songs

7.00 Kuwait in a week

7.30 A Seminar on Islamic Philosophy: "The Rights of Man" Part 6

8.25 Kul Al Funaan: Focus on Art

9.00 News in Arabic

9.50 Special programme on Sheikh Saad's visit to the US

10.25 Wrestling

11.15 Religious programme: Asma Al Hasma

11.45 News Summary

11.50 World News via Satellite/Holy Quran/Closedown

6.00 Holy Quran

6.10 Bionic Six: cartoons

6.30 Sesame Street: an education series for young viewers

7.30 Full House: "The First Day of School." The first day of school is a traumatic experience for one of Dad's girls

8.00 News in English

8.40 Hit Squad: candid

camera and practical jokes

9.10 Arab Cup football from Amman

11.15 Late Night Movie: one version of George Barry McCutcheon comedy about an ordinary man who must spend a million dollars in a month's time to receive major inheritance

The story was first filmed in 1914. Seven versions were made, the last in 1985

12.20 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

FRIDAY

4.00 Holy Quran

4.10 Cartoons

4.35 Basketball

6.10 Foo Fur: cartoons

6.30 The Bay City Rollers Show: songs, music and sketches are featured in this variety show

7.00 Walt Disney Films: "The Case Busters" Two children—aged 12 and 14—help the police to arrest criminals

8.00 News in English

8.30 Summer '88

8.50 Beauty and the Beast: "Down to the Sunless Sea." Catherine's boy-friend returns after five years and asks her to renew their relationship

9.40 227: trouble erupts after the new buyer of Bldg. 227 decides to demolish it ... comedy

10.00 Guinness Book of World Records

10.30 Nam: Tour of Duty: new series about the US involvement in Vietnam in 1967

11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.



The pilot episode of a new series, Nam: Tour of Duty, will be shown at 10.30 pm on Friday, KTV 2.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Laila Al Kadd Ala Bakaiza Wa Zaghoul (Arabic)
Starring: Suhair Babli, Issad Yunus

Al Sahmya
Police Academy IV
Starring: Steve Guttenberg, Bubba Smith

Al Hamra
Desperately Seeking Suzan
Starring: Madonna, Karen Young

Drive-In
Hikayat Nisf Million Dollar (Arabic)
Starring: Yahya Fakhrani, Iham Shahin

Al Firdous
Sherni (Hindi)
Starring: Shatrughan Sinha, Sridevi

Fahabeh Open-Air
Tamacha (Hindi)
Starring: Attyachar (Bengali)

Al Jahra
Mo'raka Al Nisa (Arabic)

Granada
The Junkman
Starring: Kathaikk Pinnil (Malayalam)

Al Jleeb
Kanoon Hai (Hindi)

Ahmadi Drive-In
Min Waina Al Harami (Arabic)



Sridevi plays Sherni, now showing at Firdous Cinema.

FRIDAY
Al Jahra
Play Dead
Granada
Ram Balram (Hindi)
Sulaibikhat
In the Life of Duty
Al Jleeb
Paap Ki Duniya (Hindi)
Starring: Sunny Deol

RADIO PROGRAMMES

English

- 0800 Opening
- 0802 Songs and Music
- 0805 Spirit of Islam
- 0830 Songs and Music
- 0830 News
- 0840 Songs and Music
- 0845 Daily Programme
- 0900 Pop International
- 0930 Your Kind of Music
- 1000 Our Press Today
- 1005 Songs and Music
- 1030 The Hit Makers
- 1100 Closedown
- 1330 News on FM Service
- Evening
- 2100 Opening
- 2102 Songs and Music
- 2130 News
- 2145 Point of View
- 2155 Songs and Music
- 2200 Understanding the Holy Quran
- 2215 Sounds of the Eighties
- 2245 Daily Programme
- 2300 The Way You Like It
- 2330 Star Tracks
- 2400 Closedown

FM Services

- 0800 Easy Listening
- 0830 News
- 0840 Easy Listening
- 1000 Songs and Music
- 1100 Country and Western
- 1200 Songs and Music
- 1300 Easy Listening
- 1400 Alam Al Nagham: Classical Music
- 1600 Easy Listening
- 1700 Arabic Songs and Music
- 1800 Party Music
- 1900 Scene and Heard
- 2000 Party Music
- 2130 News
- 2145 Party Music
- 0200 Closedown

BBC World Services

- 0000 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Radio Newsworld
- 30 Radio Active (ex 28th Two Cheers for July)
- 0100 News Summary followed by Outlook
- 30 Waveguide
- 40 Book Choice
- 45 Society Today
- 0200 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 Network UK
- 0300 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 The World Today
- 30 7th The Art of the Weatherman: 14th English Wipe — A Growth Industry: 21st The Future of British Universities: 28th The Silent Army
- 0400 Newsdesk
- 30 Classical Record Review
- 45 Reflections
- 0500 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Pictorial Choice
- 45 The World Today
- 0600 Newsdesk
- 30 Time for Verse (ex 7th Irving Berlin Among Friends)
- 40 The Farming World
- 0700 World News
- 09 Twen'y-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Guitar Workshop
- 0800 World News
- 09 Reflections
- 15 Country Style
- 30 John Peel
- 0900 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 The World Today
- 30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup
- 45 Society Today

- 1000 News Summary followed by Assignment
- 30 Radio Active (ex 28th Two Cheers for July)
- 1100 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 New Ideas (ex Sportsworld)
- 25 Book Choice (ex 21st)
- 30 Citizens
- 1200 Radio Newsworld
- 15 Multitrack 2
- 45 Sports Roundup
- 1300 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Network UK
- 45 Jazz Scene UK (ex 7th Folk in Britain: 21st Sportsworld)
- 1400 Outlook, opening with 5-Minute News
- 45 Write On ...
- 1500 Radio Newsworld
- 15 The Pleasure's Yours
- 1600 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Assignment
- 45 The World Today
- 1700 World News
- 09 Commentary
- 15 Citizens
- 45 Sports Roundup
- 1800 Newsdesk
- 30 The Pop Science Programme
- 1900 Outlook, opening with News summary
- 39 Stock Market Report
- 45 Here's Humpty!
- ALL TIMES GMT

Urdu

- 1900 Opening
- 1910 Behiteerun Quat
- 1916 Programme Preview
- 1920 Songs
- 1935 Press Report
- 1940 Perchayjan
- 2000 News
- 2020 Songs
- 2040 Radio Magazine
- 2100 Closedown

PRAYERS

- Fajr 3.31 am
- Zuhr 11.54
- Asr 3.29 pm
- Maghreb 6.46
- Isha 8.14

FRIDAY

- Fajr 3.32 am
- Zuhr 11.54
- Asr 3.30 pm
- Maghreb 6.46
- Isha 8.13

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Omar Pharmacy
Awkal Complex, Mubarak Al Kabir St.
Al Mutawa Pharmacy
Awkal Bldg., Hilali St.
Hawalli and Nugra
Al Badar Pharmacy
Tunis St., Hawalli
Salmiya and Rumaithiya
Al Maidan Pharmacy
Baghdad St.
Fahabeh and Ahmadi
Al Sadaf Pharmacy
Makkah St., F'heel
Farwaniya
Al Jazira Pharmacy
Hmoud Sanwan Rashidi Bldg., Main St. New Khaitan
Jahra
Al Noor Pharmacy
Abdul Aziz Nasrullah Bldg., Matafi St.

FRIDAY

Kuwait
Al Istiqbal Pharmacy
Safat Square
Al Amal Pharmacy
Mubarak Al Kabir St.
Hawalli and Nugra
Al Andalus Pharmacy
Tunis St., Hawalli
Salmiya and Rumaithiya
Al Samah Pharmacy
Salem Al Mubarak St.
Fahabeh and Ahmadi
Al Adcl Pharmacy
Awadhi Bldg., F'heel
Jleeb Al Shuyookh
Al Salamah Pharmacy
Block 3, Main St.
Jahra
Al Zahra Pharmacy
New Market

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

A MAN can never be a true gentleman in manner until he is a true gentleman at heart — Charles Dickens, English novelist (1812-1870).

US faces problems in global security

By Tony Barber

WASHINGTON, (Reuters): From the Philippines to Spain, from Panama to New Zealand, the United States faces vexing problems in keeping together the global security network it set up after World War II.

More and more, countries which once welcomed close defence ties with the United States and encouraged the establishment of US bases on their soil are raising questions about the terms on which the American connection should continue.

Defence analysts say the problem does not represent a sudden crisis but rather the steady erosion of the world power configurations of 1945, when the United States was alone in its ability to project military influence across the globe.

Ironically, the problem may also reflect successful US policies. In Western Europe, for example, NATO's strength has served to diminish perceptions of a Soviet threat and made some countries more sensitive about hosting US forces.

Removal
In a congressional research service report last January, defence analyst Richard Grimmett said a "domino effect" could emerge if one European state ordered the removal of US bases and others felt domestic political pressures to follow suit.

The problem surfaced in some way in Greece announced that a US-Greek defence agreement would lapse by the end of this year and the United States would then have 17 months to dismantle its bases in Greece.

The Greeks are technically correct, US officials said, but talks are continuing on a new accord and there is every prospect that US bases will stay. The United States operates four major bases and 20 smaller installations in Greece.

The Greek move highlighted friction surrounding the issue since Socialist Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu took power in 1981 vowing to remove the bases and reduce US influence.

"NATO's use of Greek bases remains perpetually precarious, balanced between the ideological hostility of the Greek government to the United States and Greece's pragmatic concern to avoid an isolation that would weaken its position vis-a-vis Turkey," says a study written for

the US Air Force.

There are few threats to the 250,000 US troops in West Germany that make up the core of the US military presence in Western Europe, but the Greek tensions are reflected elsewhere along NATO's southern flank in the Mediterranean.

It required protracted negotiations before Turkey signed a five-year defence pact with the United States last year to keep US air and intelligence-gathering facilities there. The bases and stations, close to the Soviet border, had assumed extra importance when the United States lost its facilities in Iran after the 1978-79 Islamic revolution.

In Spain, the ruling Socialists last January ordered out 72 US F-16 fighter-bombers from a base near Madrid.

Although Italy agreed last month to accept the planes, US-Spanish talks on other American bases in Spain have dragged on longer than the United States would have liked. A deal may be reached this summer, US officials say.

Portugal, which lets the United States operate an air base in the Azores in the Atlantic, was upset by congressional cuts in US aid this year, but has so far not carried out threats to consider scrapping the base.

Problem
Defence analysts say an especially serious problem lies in the Philippines, where the Subic Bay Naval Base and Clark Air Base — the largest US facilities abroad — are crucial to US power in the western Pacific and Indian Ocean.

US and Philippine negotiators have not managed to move beyond a review of an existing bases accord, which expires in 1991, to decide what happens in two and a half years' time.

The United States is refusing to pay "rent" for the bases, but is willing to continue giving aid to the Philippines. More than \$1 billion has been given in the last five years.

Another problem in the Philippines is that a law may be passed barring US nuclear ship visits. Washington suspended security ties with New Zealand in 1986 over such a law, and a similar crisis with Denmark was only just averted this year.

In the backyard of the United States, meanwhile, the Panama-based US Southern Command has been distracted by the tenacity of General Manuel Antonio Noriega in resisting US efforts to remove him as that country's de facto ruler.

Chinese prosecutors take on graft

By Jane McCarthy

CANTON, China, (UPI): Tobacco factory director Zhang Ying was caught accepting a \$19,000 bribe from a Hong Kong businessman. He was shot.

What made his crime so deadly was that he was not only corrupt, but also greedy. In China's Guangdong province, he had taken less than \$540 prosecutors wouldn't have touched him.

Zhang's case was one of more than 1,300 that Guangdong prosecutors alone took to court between 1982 and 1987.

The southern province, adjoining Hong Kong, is home to one of the most serious outbreaks of graft in China since the 19th century Qing emperors gave officials a pittance and expected their underpaid mandarins to supplement their incomes through squeeze.

Communist Party General Secretary Zhao Ziyang has called for "honest government" in China, with specific reference to Guangdong, where corruption has followed hard on the heels of the province's bid to spearhead the nation's ambitious capitalist-style economic reforms.

Profit
The reforms have provided numerous opportunities and loopholes by which China's more than 40 million officials can make an illicit profit.

"True, the existing decadent phenomena are a product of the developing commodity economy," the state-run Xinhua News Agency admitted in a unusual commentary on new measures aimed at curbing venal bureaucrats.

So notorious is the problem of graft in China's most open and prosperous province, that local courts have a special policy

whereby officials may accept up to \$540 worth of "financial incentives" before charges are filed.

In the rest of the country, the line between bribery and gifts is drawn at just half that sum.

"There is more corruption in Guangdong than in other provinces because the commodity—or market—economy is more developed," said Guo Qi, deputy district attorney of the provincial capital of Canton.

While the number of cases involving government officials and party officials has fallen in the last two years, "that doesn't necessarily indicate corruption is decreasing," Guo cautioned. "Rather, it means people are becoming more sophisticated and cunning."

Study

Some Canton officials have substituted their cash demands with requests that foreign companies arrange for their children to study abroad.

"It is very hard to find proof of this type of abuse of power," Guo said.

He also complained that "when both sides are making a profit from the transaction, then corruption is more and more difficult to uncover."

Unfortunately for China's prosecutors, most plunder that falls within their jurisdiction involves the rapidly multiplying numbers of foreign firms doing business in China and local officials — both with something to gain.

In a bid to slash the growth in under-the-table tradeoffs, the Canton People's Criminal Investigation Department set up a 24-hour telephone hotline on June 1 that outraged citizens can dial to report corruption.

Gulf shippers await end to tanker war

By Mariam Al Khalifa

BAHRAIN, (Reuters): A Bahraini tanker set on fire in an Iranian gunboat attack last Friday may go down in history as the last victim of the Gulf tanker war.

But until a ceasefire is in place, shippers are hedging their bets amid fears a new raid by Iraq or Iran could prompt a fresh round of the shipping attacks in which hundreds of seamen have died.

"The big question in everyone's minds is, what happens now?" one shipping source said. "We are still a long way from the final blessing... it only needs one incident and the whole thing will blow up again," he said.

Fantastic
News yesterday that Iran had accepted a UN ceasefire call in its bitter eight-year-old conflict with Iraq prompted waves of jubilation among seamen at ports throughout the Gulf.

"When I first heard the news, I was dancing around the room —

it's fantastic," said David Pellatt, Bahrain seafarers' welfare representative.

"This will take a tremendous burden of stress and tension off crewmen who have been the prime target of missiles."

Salvage experts were less optimistic. They said they would keep their tugboats waiting at strategic points throughout the Gulf, ready to rush to the rescue of any attacked vessel.

"If the shipping war really ends, our tugs will disappear entirely," one salvage source said. "But for the time being, they will be on standby everywhere to assist ships on fire."

In the southern Gulf, the US frigate *Fahrron* escorted an oil tanker, the 46,723-tonne *Gas Princess*, and the 35,663-tonne American tanker *Amoco* into the waterway today.

A new photographer, flying nearby in a helicopter, said shipping appeared to be normal. A British warship was shepherding another batch of tankers out of the Gulf.

More than 100 seamen have been killed and 94 ships hit in Iraqi or Iranian raids in 1988 alone. Lloyd's shipping intelligence in London put the total number of vessels attacked since the shipping war began in 1981 at 546.

The last victim — the 85,989-tonne *Liberian* tanker *Sea Victory* — was hit in a gunboat raid as it sailed past Iran's Farsi Island in the northern Gulf on Friday. There were no casualties.

Although many raids have inflicted only pinprick damage, seamen plying the narrow waterway have been on edge since the maritime war escalated in earnest in 1984 as Iraq sought to cut Iran's oil export lifeline.

Iraqi warplanes firing deadly Exocet missiles targeted tankers serving Iran, while Iran focussed hit-and-run gunboat raids on neutral shipping serving Baghdad's Gulf Arab allies.

A mistaken Iraqi raid on the US frigate *Stark* in May 1987 prompted an influx of foreign warships into the Gulf to help

protect their country's shipping. Thirty-seven men were killed in that attack.

Since then, US and Iranian forces have clashed several times, with the loss of a number of Iranian warships. A US cruiser accidentally shot down an Iranian passenger plane on July 3, killing 290 people.

Shipping sources said a ceasefire could mean the withdrawal of all or most of the international naval presence in the waterway — something which Iran has demanded for months.

Trapped

"It will give the Americans the perfect excuse to leave," one source said. "It also means we can start chartering non-protected ships... it will be open market again."

The sources predicted peace would herald the start of a boom for salvage and shipping companies in the area, with falling insurance rates and reconstruction of Iraqi and Iranian ports boosting business.

"There will be development in the offshore oil sector and rebuilding of new platforms and other facilities," one source said. "There will also be salvage of blocked and trapped ships, especially in Iraq's Shatt Al Arab waterway."

Lloyd's shipping intelligence says 75 vessels remain trapped in the Shatt Al Arab waterway, leading to the major Iraqi and Iranian ports of Basra and Abadan. Another 18 remain in two nearby Iraqi trading ports.

The shipping sources predicted the boom would last for several years. "There is plenty of work to be done... its good to be in the right place with the right equipment," said one.

But some foreign seamen — who receive up to three times their regular pay for risking their lives on Iran's notorious "Exocet alley" — sounded a sour note.

"I hope they are not going to cancel our war risk bonuses," the United Arab Emirates *Khalaf* Times quoted a Filipino sailor as saying.

voys last year and 47 in 1988, no US-flagged tanker has been directly attacked.

The US government said the reflagging policy reflected a long-standing US commitment to freedom of navigation, and would blunt Moscow's effort to expand its influence. The administration has opposed a Soviet-backed proposal for a United Nations force to replace the seven foreign navies that together have some 30 warships in the Gulf at any time.

Assailed

US Congressional opponents assailed the reflagging policy as ill-defined and risky, but the administration of President Ronald Reagan has thwarted repeated efforts to enable Congress to cut the funds.

By rough calculation, the reflagged tankers carry about 20 per cent of Kuwait's total oil product exports of 600,000 barrels a day. About a third goes to Kuwait's own retail outlets in Europe and the rest to regular customers in Europe and Japan.

Since January, the convoys have been increased in frequency but reduced in size, often to one tanker.

The Pentagon estimates the cost of the expanded force at \$20 million a month.

Nine Americans have been killed in the past 12 months in ship helicopter crashes. The *USS Samuel B. Roberts* was nearly sunk by an Iranian mine, but officers say the crew's ability to save it validated lessons learned in the May 1987 *Stark* disaster, when an errant Iraqi missile attack killed 37 crewmen.

community. Political analysts say Rafsanjani's centrist stand in domestic politics became a powerful focus in a country weary of stalemate between radical and traditionalist Islamic tendencies.

Internationally, Western diplomats characterise him as a "pragmatist" and tolerant of the West.

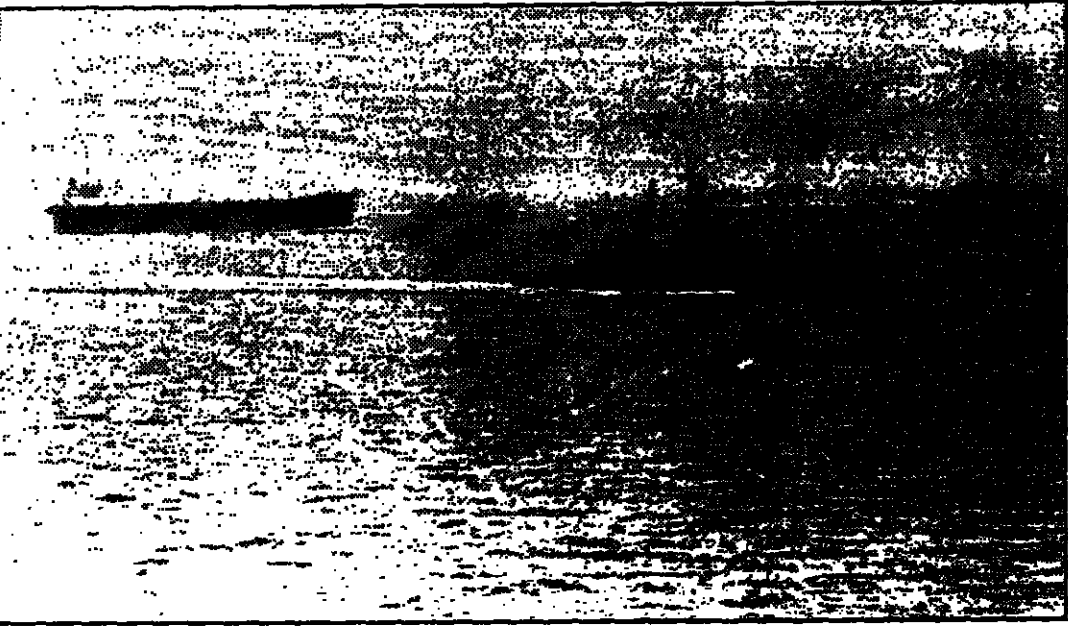
Diplomats say Rafsanjani played a major role in the release of the last four Americans from a US TWA airliner hijacked by Lebanese radicals to Beirut in 1985.

Rafsanjani was also involved in buying US weapons in return for persuading kidnappers to free American hostages in the Washington scandal that later became known as Irangate, the diplomat said. News of US arms sales was broken by Islamic radicals seeking to unseat him, they added.

Jokes

At frequent speeches at Tehran's mass Friday prayers, Rafsanjani, his tightly woven white turban tilted back on his head, jokes, mocks, threatens and reasons with his audience in readily understood colloquial Farsi.

US convoy operation achieves mixed results



The US warships USS Kidd and USS Fox escort the crude oil tanker Bridgeton through the Gulf on the way to Kuwait to pick up a cargo of crude oil. (Reuters wirephoto)

products that otherwise might not have reached customers in Europe and Japan.

For the Navy, it has meant a gruelling test of ships, sailors and technology in a war where threats range from armed speedboats and underwater mines to fast-moving aircraft and dangerously deceptive signals on a radar screen.

The escort operation got off to

a shaky start when the 401,382-ton *Bridgeton*, the only crude carrier among the 11 reflagged tankers, hit a mine on the first upbound convoy. It is now semi-retired. A second tanker was knocked out of service for five months by an Iranian missile attack on Kuwait's main oil terminal.

In the course of the convoy operation, the United States

sank or damaged six Iranian vessels in a one-day missile war and an American cruiser on July 3 mistakenly shot down an Iranian jetliner, killing 290. US forces have had at least three other significant clashes with Iranian craft.

About 100 commercial vessels were attacked in the past year, many while sailing to or from Kuwait. But in the 21 Navy con-

Rafsanjani: a sharp-witted cleric

NICOSIA, (Reuters): Military supremo Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, the man widely believed to be behind Iran's acceptance of a UN ceasefire, is a sharp-witted cleric who has become one of the most powerful men in his country.

By 1987 he had emerged as the key Tehran spokesman on all major issues — second only to supreme leader Ayatollah Khomeini. Khomeini named him last month as acting commander of the armed forces in charge of the General Command Headquarters, Iran's effective ruling body.

Diplomats in Tehran say the 55-year-old Khomeini had in effect named him as his political successor, giving him a free hand to negotiate an end to the Gulf war after a series of military set-

backs. Rafsanjani, 54, lacks top religious seniority but draws power from a personal closeness to Khomeini, backed by a keen eye for shifting political tides and by catchy speeches.

Garrulous
Official visitors to Tehran describe him as garrulous, flexible and intelligent, ready to debate anything from Kampuchean politics to decadence in American society.

"Rafsanjani is a very sharp operator and has made many enemies, but he hasn't taken a step backward in years," said one Western diplomat.

In 1986, shortly before the sixth anniversary of the conflict, he explained Tehran's demand for total victory with a pragmatism unusual among leaders of



Rafsanjani

either side: "Can we say, with so many martyrs behind us, we made a mistake? Both sides would have to

spend all their existence on an arms race for decades, and bare their claws and fangs in the propaganda war to prove what they said before had been correct."

The same cool realism was apparent in Rafsanjani's comments when Tehran on Monday said it accepted unconditionally last year's UN Security Council ceasefire resolution, which Iraq had already agreed to.

He said the dispute with Iraq was suspended but not over. "I do not consider the attainment of peace and calm as unlikely. However, I am not very optimistic either."

Victory

In the first years after the 1979 Islamic Revolution, Rafsanjani steered parliament to victory in a power struggle with the presidency, making it one of the most influential elected chambers in Iran's autocratic history.

But he repeatedly denied he was at odds with Ayatollah Hossein Ali Montazeri, Khomeini's designated successor as head of Iran's majority Shiite Muslim

Khomeini's failing health may have prompted ceasefire call

By Lee Stokes

MANAMA, (UPI): Iran's sudden acceptance Monday of a UN ceasefire proposed a year ago to end the nearly eight-year-old Iran-Iraq war is most likely linked to the failing health of Ayatollah Khomeini.

Western diplomats in Iran and the Gulf area believe that after the spiritual leader's death, it could be political suicide for an Iranian leader to try to make peace with Iraq.

Such a leader would be placing himself at a disadvantage in the bitter power struggle that seems to have intensified amid reports Khomeini is dying of cancer, they say.

Therefore, according to this scenario, the leaders had to give the impression, whether true or not, that they were accepting a truce with the Ayatollah's blessings and had to act quickly before his death.

There is little doubt any Iranian leader who ends the nearly 8-year-old conflict, which has claimed about 1 million lives in the two countries, would win immense popularity among war-weary Iranians, especially since

Iran has suffered a series of military setbacks in the last three months.

Rivals
But the diplomats said rivals in the Byzantine power structure could "annihilate" the peace-maker politically by presenting him as a "weakling" and "compromiser."

The announcement of the ceasefire was first made in the name of Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, the acting military commander and pragmatic speaker of the parliament who is a favourite of Khomeini.

Rafsanjani could not have sued for peace without consulting the other members of the Supreme Defence Council, including his arch-rival President Ali Khamenei.

It appears, therefore, that Rafsanjani persuaded his rivals including Khomeini, who grudgingly drafted the letter to UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar — to go along with his plan.

To have done that, Rafsanjani must have persuaded his rivals their survival depended on Iran receiving a period of grace from the war which, if it continued, could have lost support even

among war-weary clerics.

Diplomats in Tehran said clerics pressured Khomeini on several occasions over the past two years — when Iraqi long-range missiles rained death and destruction on Iranian cities and fears grew that Baghdad might employ chemical warfare against Tehran — to end the war.

Continue

Khomeini reportedly told the clerics to abandon any thoughts of ending the war, ordering them to continue their efforts as long as he was alive. Diplomats, relating reports of the exchange, said, however, that Khomeini added, "after I am gone, you may do as you please."

So, Monday's move could mean that Rafsanjani acted against Khomeini's wishes. But if he did so, Iran watchers believe Rafsanjani, who is nicknamed "The Fox" for his political craftiness, plotted his move well or knew Khomeini was too weak to protest.

Rafsanjani said the peace move was made with the approval of Khomeini, who has not been seen in public for more than a month, and there was no immediate denial from any other quarter.



Review compensation

SIR: I was surprised to find that the amounts of disability compensation paid to the victims of road accidents by the car insurance companies remain the same as paid several years ago.

While the rate of payment for everything else has jumped manifold, it is strange that where human suffering is involved these rates remain the same. For death or total disability for life it was years ago, only just as it was years ago.

The amount must be more realistic and it is high time that these rates be reviewed in the letter and spirit of the principle of compensation. A person who loses all his ability due to the negligence of others must be compensated enabling him and his family to pull on.

The car insurance companies are by law obliged to pay compensation to the victims of road accidents for which they are paid yearly premium.

I request the concerned authorities to urgently review the rates of compensation to victims.

Sayed Mahboob Shah, Sakat, (Address supplied)

ALL letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

Secret war over money to finance uprising

By Paul Taylor

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, (Reuters): Behind the street clashes between Palestinian protesters and Israeli troops, a secret war is being waged over money to finance the Arab uprising against Israeli occupation.

Palestinian activists are trying to smuggle cash into the West Bank and Gaza Strip to keep the nearly seven-month-old revolt alive. Israeli authorities are fighting to prevent money from reaching the rebels.

Sources on both sides say the Israelis seem to be winning, but that may not stop the uprising. Arab League states agreed last month to channel undisclosed financial aid to the intifada (uprising), but there is no sign of extra funds arriving and some Palestinian radicals say their low-budget rebellion is better off without such money.

"The important thing is that Palestinians should be self-reliant, not paid by Arab states to throw stones," one occupied East Jerusalem militant said.

Distribution
Tens of millions of dollars have reached the occupied territories since the start of the year, but distribution has been uneven and many Palestinian families deprived of a living by the uprising have received nothing, security sources say.

The Israelis say they have seized hundreds of thousands of dollars at airports and borders, intended to fund the intifada.

The United States protested in vain to Israel last month over the confiscation of some \$180,000 from Arab-American visitors at Ben Gurion Airport.

Security sources say the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has used anti-Zionist, ultra-orthodox Jews, tourists, Israeli Arabs and international charities to bring in cash.

Yet when the money reaches the occupied territories, it does not always end up in the right pockets, Palestinians say. More than half the 500 Arabs who resigned from the Israeli police force in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in March have quickly returned to work because financial support was not forthcoming.

A Palestinian activist, who like others interviewed for this article insisted on anonymity, said: "Every injured person gets \$500. Families of martyrs get more."

Pay
The Jordan-funded Waqf, the occupied East Jerusalem-based Muslim religious trust, has announced in newspaper advertisements that it will pay 50 Jordanian dinars (\$150) to the families of detainees and those killed or injured in the unrest.

In the villages and refugee camps, the picture is mixed.

CINE ROUND-UP FROM BOMBAY

by Firoze Rangoonwalla

Special to the
Arab Times

Glory of the ghazal and its use in cinema

IN THE musical-lyrical tradition, the "ghazal" has a place of its own; also its own form, style and norms. It is like no other song, though other songs have often been palmed off as "ghazals" an indication of its high popularity. The current phenomenon of the "ghazal" wave in the music world can be partly attributed to this.

Hindi films and sometimes even the regional ones have made ample, if not apt, use of "ghazals" and still continue to do so. The glorious days of this unique poetic form in cinema can be traced to the first two to three decades after the talkie arrived. Since the creation of a literary tradition has never been a strong point of Indian cinema and its talents, the early films had to fall back upon the rich heritage of the famous Urdu poets belonging to still earlier periods.

This of course enriched the films with a high lyrical quality, though without no credit or compensation for the original writers. But the discerning ear could find out whose "ghazal" it was. The wise old poets had devised a clever creative way of using the last two lines of the work to incorporate the name or at least the nom-de-plume of

the author. It was like the last word of the poet. And the "ghazals" became like signed poems.

It was Mirza Ghalib who created a classic last line by saying: "Kahte hain ke Ghalib ka hai andaze bayan aur". He was roundly criticised for back-patting himself by the rivals of his times.

He only wanted to suggest that every poet has his own different way of putting across his thought content. This has been understood after decades and now everyone talks of that elusive "andaze bayan". Ghalib also used to sign his early works with his first name Asad. Thus was the tradition laid by great poets and it has assured their "copyright" till today.

Ghalib is by and large the only poet of the last century whose compositions have been exploited the most in Hindustani films. His "ghazals" like "Yeh na thi hamari kismet ki vissal-e-yar hota", "Aah ko chahiye ik umr asar hone tak",



A rare glimpse of Jahan Ara Kajjan and Master Nissar singing in Shirin Farhad (1931).

"Dil hi to hai", "Dile-nadan tujhe hua kya hai", "Nukta cheen hai ghame dil", "Jee dhundhata hai phir wohi fursat", have been used from the times of New Theatres till recent years. The immortal Saigal sang some of them in



Ghazal queen Begum Akhtar acted and sang in Mehboob's Roti.

films and on non-film discs. A few great names in the sphere of "ghazal" — singing have also crooned them. Gulzar's Mausam had the first couplet of one "ghazal" as its base lines. Ghalib has indirectly contributed a lot.

The film world has paid its tribute to the poet by way of a feature movie, a documentary and now a TV serial in the offing. In Sohrab Modi's biographical film, which won the top National Award, most of the important "ghazals" of Ghalib were set to very apt tunes by Ghulam Mohd. and sung hauntingly by Suraiya and Talat Mehmood, especially lyrics like "Rahiye ab aisi jagah chakar jahan koi na ho". Later day hit songs like "Ai dil mujhe aisi jagah le chal jahan koi na ho" from Dang were directly inspired from this. Bahadur Shah Zafar's verses have also been a perennial favourite in films, like "Lagta nahin hai Jee mera" and "Na kisi ki aankh ka noor hoon".

Reliance on old poets was also inevitable in the films of the first decade of the talkies, since many of them were directly transplanted from stage-plays with dialogue, songs and all. These dramas had made free use of the old "shairs" and "ghazals", which automatically got transferred to films, often with the same tunes. The early big hits of singer stars Master Nissar and Jahan Ara Kajjan, like Shirin Farhad, Laila Majnu, Indrasabha etc., made by Madan Theatres had many such legendary "ghazals".

Some of the music directors of that era also belonged to the old school and preferred similar singers. So there were "ghazals" aplenty in those days, sometimes each one turned in three to four different ways. Singers like Jaddan Bai (mother of the late Nargis) reasserted this tradition especially when she produced her own films and provided the music, apart from singing and acting. In Calcutta, the Bengali directors of New Theatres preferred it for the Hindi versions to build up the right northern ethos in contrast to the Bengali originals.

In Bombay, some films of Wadia Brothers, Minerva Movietone, Ranjit Studio adopted this lyrical form. J.B.H. Wadia even made short documentaries on some of the exponents. Akhtari Faizabadi acted and sang in Nasib ka Chakkar and later Mehboob Khan's Roti. She was to become the famous ghazal-queen Begum Akhtar. For some legal technicality, her songs had to be excluded from the released version of Roti (1942). Her non-film "ghazals" continued to inspire composers and one of them took the delightful form of O.P. Nayyar's duet "Jhuka jhuka ke nigahen milaye jate hain" picturised on Shammii Kapoor and Geeta Bali, though in a banal film.

The famous artist-singers of the 30's used to specialise also in "ghazals". Apart from Saigal and to some extent Surendra, there were Pahari Sanyal, Pankaj Malik, K.C. Dey, Rafiq Ghaznavi, Nawab, Master Mohd., Sardar Mansur, Firoze Dastur, Kanan Devi, Zohrabai, Goharbai and

Amirbai Karnatki, Mumtaz Bai and many others. By the end of the decade the playback system also came in full vogue and the singers too many to mention began to render all types of songs with equal ease.

Unfortunately, in today's "ghazals", the wah-wah business is more than the suspense or joy of knowing the clue to the couplet. People who can't follow the intricacies of the language also jump up with words of praise, just to be a part of the scene and atmosphere. This can be noticed from the fact that the "wah-wah" starts even before the couplet can be completed. The "qawwali" is a more raucous extension of the "ghazal" with a chorus and different musical instruments.

Both the forms have been abundantly used by Hindi films and some even in Marathi and Gujarati ones. In the earlier years, it was the soft "ghazal" with hardly any accompaniment that won the hearts of cinegoers. Later, the "qawwali" was perfected as an exciting blend of poetry and music, (sometimes even dance), and used in countless films, not necessarily Muslim socials. In later years, a film called Ghazal was also made starring Meena Kumari, she herself a poetess.

As for the singers, the decade of the 40's brought typical artistes cum singers belonging to the medium, like Khurshid, Noor Jehan and later Suraiya. The male playbacks like Mohd Rafi, Mukesh, Durrani, Manna Dey and to some extent Kishore Kumar adopted the "ghazal" form as and when needed. They had the necessary resilience for it. But one who indeed specialised in it, with a voice that seemed gifted for it was Talat Mehmood. And the

composer who seemed born to the "ghazal" was Madan Mohan. Other singers and music directors also proved equally good when they occasionally tried their hand at it. But Talat and Madan were supreme for a time, with Talat also acting in a few films.

The middle decades were adorned with many lovely "ghazals". Once again, all of them are too numerous to recall. Nor is it the purpose of this article to trace a history of the film "ghazal" or enumerate all the various compositions spread over several films. Some which can be mentioned as excellent examples come to mind, as follows: "Hum se aaya na gaya, tumse bulaya na gaya", "Tujhe kya sunaon main dilruba", "Tu pyar par bas to nahin hai", "Tu pyar kare ya thukraye", "Na milta gham to barbadi ke afsane kahan jate", "Yoon hasraton ke daag", "Unko yeh shikayat hai", "Teri zulfon se judai to nahin maangi thi", "Aap ki nazaron ne samajha pyar ke kaabil mujhe", "Hai isi mein pyar ki aabroo".

"Tere pyar ka aasra chahta hoon", "Muhabbat hi na jo samjhe", "Kabhi khud pe kabhi hulaat pe rona aaya", "Tang aa chuke hain kashmak-ashe zindagi se hum".

It is an irony of the present age that "ghazals" have become a craze off the screen, through cassettes, discs, live recitals etc. Their singers have become famous names, with the lyricists and composers also sharing some part of the new-found wealth and fame. But our films have become so action-oriented and the romantic tradition has been lost to such an extent, that the "ghazal" hardly finds a place in them, except in occasional cases like Umrao Jaan and Nikah. On the contrary, our films pay a left-handed compliment by creating a situation for a non-film "ghazal" as in Naam.

If songs were totally divorced from cinema and subsisting in a separate disc world, it would be an adulterated blessing. Then, only musical films could have songs, as per the tradition of Hollywood and other countries. But to have all kinds of songs and yet not have its sweetest form is like a curse which our "kalyug ka cinema" has inherited from its own system.



"Tere pyar ka aasra chahta hoon" — Rajendra and Mala in the famous ghazal scene of Dhool Ka Phool.



Today's "ghazal-kars" — (left to right) Jagrit, Talat Aziz, Bhupinder, Mitalee.



Sunil Dutt reciting couplets to Meena across the "chilman" in the film Ghazal.

N.W. CONTINENT/U.K./SCANDINAVIA —
ARABIAN GULF TRADE SUSPENSION OF
CURRENCY ADJUSTMENT FACTOR (CAF)

Further to the announcement in the press during the second half of June 1988, notification is hereby given that owing to an improvement in the position of the US Dollar since the previous CAF calculation in mid-June 1988, the undermentioned Lines have decided to suspend the CAF as from 1st August 1988.

This notice is issued on behalf of:
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FAMILY DOCTOR
By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIMFEVER-INDUCED SEIZURES
COMMON IN YOUNG CHILDREN

QUESTION: We recently had a terrible fright when our baby had a seizure, during a bout of fever caused by a cold. My mother-in-law assures me that this is a common thing and that we have nothing to worry about, but we are still concerned and anxious. Can you help us?

ANSWER: Febrile seizure is a convulsion (a violent and involuntary contraction of the muscles of the body and limbs) caused by a fever in otherwise healthy children usually between the ages of 3 months and 5 years. It can last anywhere from less than two minutes to more than 15 and can occur more than once in a 24-hour period.

While convulsions of this type are common during childhood bouts of flu, colds, ear infections and other infections that produce a high fever, parents have a right to be concerned, for it is a frightening experience. Let me reassure you. In the great majority of cases there really is nothing to fear, and reducing the child's fever usually will prevent a recurrence of the seizure. However, any incident of febrile seizure should be brought to the attention of the family physician to rule out more serious causes such as encephalitis, meningitis and epilepsy.

If there is reason to suspect that the

seizure may have other causes than just fever, a full examination is recommended. Post-seizure evaluation begins with thorough history-taking and physical examination. Anti-convulsant medication, further testing and X-rays are ordered only if the seizures are complicated. For instance, an EEG or brain wave scan to detect structural disease, such as tumours, would be indicated for seizures that may have lasted a long time or affected just one part of the body. It sounds as if you have no cause for worry, but it is advisable to check it out.

I THOUGHT YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW: The human hearing "system" is simply amazing, providing us with the ability to detect a wide range and variety of sounds, enabling speech and affording us with an important sense that permits us to survive in a hostile environment. To achieve all this it has developed into a complex and intricate combination of sound-gathering mechanism, nerves and brain centres. With so many parts, both moving and "electrical," it is little wonder that it is subject to many ailments that may impair its ability to function, reducing hearing ability and producing deafness.

Congenital abnormalities, infections, trauma, tumours, even age, all may lead to

hearing loss. That probably explains the quantity of mail received asking for information about this vital sense. So I have sought, and found, a most valuable resource for you to obtain important information about deafness and hearing impairments.

You may address your queries to the National Information Centre on Deafness, Gallaudet College, 800 Florida Ave., Washington, D.C. 20002. This free service will answer your specific questions concerning your personal problems (it may take a bit of time, of course) through various means, including personal letters, a variety of fact sheets, brochures, bibliographies and referrals, as well as information about Gallaudet College, which serves the deaf. Even if you are just curious, you may obtain its Deafness Fact Sheet, by sending your request along with a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Thirty-six million Americans — young and old — suffer with arthritis. Get the latest information about diagnosis and treatment in Dr Bruckheim's detailed new booklet, ARTHRITIS. To order your copy, send \$2.75 to ARTHRITIS, P.O. Box: 4406, Orlando, Fla. 32802-4406. Make cheques payable to Newspaper books. 1988 TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES, INC.

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HUMOUR

The muses and how to tell them apart

By Glenn O'Brien

IF IT weren't for the nine daughters of Zeus (known in Rome as Jupiter) and Mnemosyne (known in Tokyo as Memorex), there would be no arts as we know them. These nine daughters have been known from time immemorial as the muses, and throughout history they have been credited with the direct supervision of the arts. But today how many of us can name them, let alone recall their areas of expertise?

It is a sad commentary on our society, in which the arts have fallen into a state of considerable decadence if not morbidity. So let us now review the muses and their traditional purviews, and let us consider in what additional areas the muses might today be invoked for greater aesthetic achievement and higher grosses across the board. (Many thanks to Madame Zeida for muse-channelling assistance).

Calliope is the muse of epic poetry. She is usually portrayed as a nice-looking brunette with fair skin wearing laurel in her hair. Calliope has also been called the Muse of Eloquence, and she was one of the more popular sisters until approximately 1880, when a cumbersome and annoying steam-operated musical instrument was named after her. As a result Calliope now prefers to be called by other names, such as Laurel, Linda, or Lady C. Today she is the muse of spaghetti westerns, rap music, designer jeans, police dramas, and congressional hearings. In our channelling sessions Calliope has revealed she hopes for more rewarding work and is on the lookout for high-concept projects. She also stated that in the movies she would like to be played by Stephanie Zimbalist and that in the future Fawn Hall will replace the retiring Barbara Walters.

Clio is the muse of history. Today her responsibilities include news and docudrama. In channelling Clio has revealed that she is black and her hobby is waterskiing. Her favourite turnouts are James Earl Jones movies, reading (Newsday, Spy, Gore Vidal), sincere guys, and macrobiotic food. Her worst turnouts are insincerity, facial hair, and Geraldo Rivera. Her sign is Gemini. Clio loved the movie Network and would love to become more involved in television editorials. In the movies, she would like to be played by Diana Ross.

Erato is the muse of love poetry. She is blonde and wears contact lenses. Her preferred modern pseudonyms are Mickey, Darlene, Natasha, and Sugar. In channelling sessions she has claimed to own ten per cent of Madonna. Erato's favourite film is Bell, Book and Candle. She likes Japanese food, Christian Lacroix, and U2. She would like to meet the right guy, but on her own terms. In the movies she would like to be portrayed by Jodie Foster.

Euterpe is the muse of lyric poetry. She goes by many modern names, but all of them have a middle name involved. Euterpe is also the muse of California raisins, the Hudson River School of painting, rhythmic gymnastics, back-packing, and the L.L. Bean catalogue. She likes the Police (the band) and Ben & Jerry's ice cream (particularly Heath Bar Crunch). Her favourite modern poet is Frank O'Hara. In the movies she would like to be played by Sigourney Weaver or Debra Winger.

Polyhymnia is the muse of sacred poetry. She answers to just plain Polly. She too likes the Police, especially Sting, and English bands in general. She is almost always dressed in black, with coal black hair and red lips and fingernails. Polly is also the muse of wine stewards, interior designers, art directors, advertising agencies, and the service industries in general. Her favourite actress is Faye Dunaway, but she sees herself as more the Christie Hynde type.

Melpomene is the muse of tragedy. She goes by Mel. She's blonde and although her figure is perfect she suffers from bulimia; she keeps it under control by attending OA meetings disguised as a mortal. She likes tennis, old movies (not colourized), Bon Jovi, and Ralph Lauren. Among her areas of responsibility are Scandinavian countries, labour negotiations, and higher education. She is not seeing anyone at the moment. In the movies she would like to be played by Cybill Shepherd.

Tersicore is the muse of choral dance and song. In the movies she would like to be played by eight people, including Jennifer Beals, Karole Armatage, and Annie Lennox. In channelling she revealed that she hated A Chorus Line and Starlight Express, but has great hope for the future.

Thalia is the muse of comedy. Her appearance is very much like that of Thalia Menninger as played by Tuesday Weld on the Dobie Gillis show. She likes The Cosby Show, Joe Dante movies, and NBA basketball (she's a Utah Jazz fan). Her favourite comics are Jackie Vernon, B.S. Pulley, and Belle Barth. Her pet peeves are Cagney and Lacey, racist cabdrivers, and Thierry Mugler. In the movies she would like to be portrayed by Veronica Lake or, if that's not possible, Meryl Streep.

Urania is the muse of astronomy. In channelling sessions she revealed that astronomy as we know it has little or nothing to do with the astronomy she inspired. She thinks that Star Trek: The Next Generation is "stupid," and says that Dune kind of grew on her. "Like athlete's foot." Today, Urania — "call me U" — spends most of her time on product naming and the supervision of horse racing. She likes bland food, Jim Rosenquist, and Dizzy Gillespie. In the movies she could see Molly Ringwald doing the job — "We have the same lips."

Obviously the jobs of these sisters have changed a great deal over the years, as have the artistic disciplines under their protection and influence. But there's little doubt that we are in big trouble on the arts front and that we need their help more than ever. So tomorrow, before you go to work, try contacting the muse in charge of your job description. And if you're not quite sure who that might be, just listen to Aretha Franklin records until it's obvious.

Skirts — the long and short of it

IF I CAN, I'd like to clear up some of this confusion about skirt lengths. It may not seem like a crucial issue now, when it's possible to make do with a bathing suit, a pair of shorts, and a pair of jeans. But fall is right around the fashion corner and not only is the entire appearance of our society in question but also the fortunes of hundreds of businesses employing thousands of people. And it is not inconceivable that the political future of

entire nations both in this hemisphere and the other one too hang in the balance sheet. The world is waiting to see its future in a hemline.

Some commentators have predicted a return to the mini-skirt, while others have decreed that this autumn will see skirts lengthen as part of a larger conservative trend in fashion and the arts, reflecting uncertainty in world financial markets, the insecurity of petroleum shipping lanes, the unpredictability of interest rates, and the atmosphere of general scepticism that normally prevails in a presidential election year. Other observers have attempted to skirt the issue altogether by predicting a mass conversion to trousers.

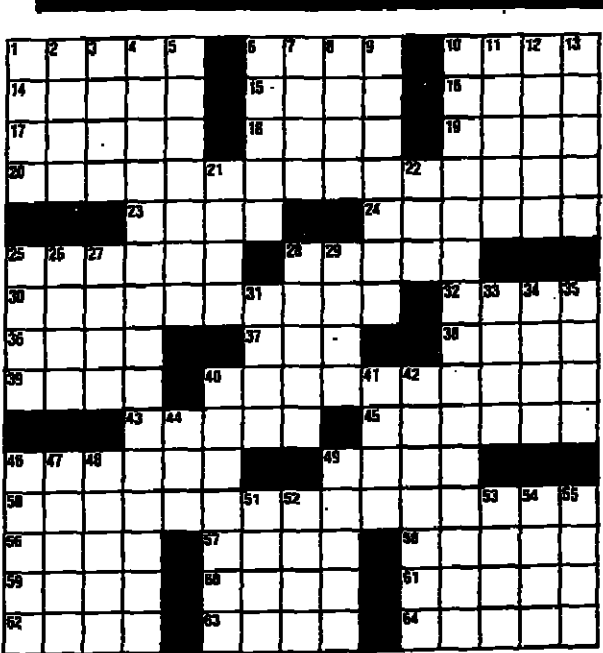
But I feel that I can say with certainty that there will be more short skirts this fall than at any time in recent years and that the long skirts, as predicted, will also be worn — sometimes over a much shorter skirt, sometimes over trousers, and sometimes over nothing, not even panties. There will be more skirts than ever, and any kind of skirt will prove effective — druids, kilts, and even culottes.

I do predict that fewer men will be wearing skirts this fall. For the fall of '89, however, I predict that the wearing of a familiar tartan kilt will be de rigueur among men in eccentric and even concentric circles. So if your family doesn't have a plaid to call its own there is still plenty of time to commission one before the whole world is in skirts.

Of course, wearing a kilt will be a big change for many American men. It's demanding look and it requires a certain amount of style to carry it off. Not to mention the right accessories. I myself am having Louis Vuitton work me up a sporran that serves as the occasional codpiece but also functions as a coin purse, Filofax, and cellular phone. When skirts are finally in again for men, I won't be caught short.



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Capital of Belorussia
 - 6 Judgment
 - 10 Scoreboard stats
 - 14 Valuable violin
 - 15 — mater
 - 16 "— le roi!"
 - 17 One of Lear's daughters
 - 18 Passage
 - 19 Edomite's ancestor
 - 20 Cool and reserved state
 - 23 Wagon
 - 24 Besmirches
 - 25 Less difficult
 - 26 Temperess
 - 30 Confronts
 - 32 Stand the — (take abuse)
 - 36 Chinese society
 - 37 Court high shot
 - 38 Blackthorn
 - 39 Singer Paul
 - 40 Hold a position firmly
 - 43 Beethoven title
 - 45 Spectators
 - 46 Outcome
 - 48 Writer O'Casey
 - 50 Albert
 - 56 Love of
 - 57 River of NE China
 - 58 Senegal's capital
- DOWN**
- 1 Planet
 - 2 "— a man who wasn't there"
 - 3 Hill region of India and Burma
 - 4 Obliquely positioned
 - 5 Like-minded
 - 6 Cartoon duck
 - 7 Scandinavian saint
 - 8 A king of Israel
 - 9 Mehta, for one
 - 10 London newspaper
 - 11 Up
 - 12 Seaman's "Stop!"
 - 13 Grinch's creator
 - 21 Tiresias' features
 - 22 "Scots, wha —"
 - 25 This woman, in Madrid
 - 26 "...like — of bricks"
 - 27 Plummeted
 - 28 Certain radius
- 29 "Let —"**
Beatles song
- 31 — Bator,**
Mongolia
- 33 Pres. Arthur's**
middle name
- 34 Loving**
35 — men
- 40 Gossips**
41 Yachting

42 Balletomane,
at times

44 — polio
45 Last of the Mohicans

47 English Channel
port

48 Thong
49 Tolerated

51 Beacon or Nob
52 Munro's pseudonym

53 Sacred image
54 Apollo agcy.

55 Stoneware, in
Limoges

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

THE KING IS DEAD

North-South vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♠ 8 5 4
♥ A 9 3
♦ A K Q 7
♣ J 5 2

EAST
♠ J 10 3
♥ K Q 10 7 6 4
♦ J 8 5
♣ 6 4

SOUTH
♠ A Q 9 7 6 2
♥ 2
♦ 6 3
♣ Q 10 7 3

The bidding:
East Pass South West North
Pass Pass 2♥ Pass
3♥ 3♠ Pass 4♠
Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♣
No, your eyes are not deceiving you. This is the same hand as yesterday! To be more accurate, the North-South hands are the same; the East-West hands have one card switched in each black suit. Yesterday, the hand presented a problem for the defense. Today, it's declarer who's skill is being tested.

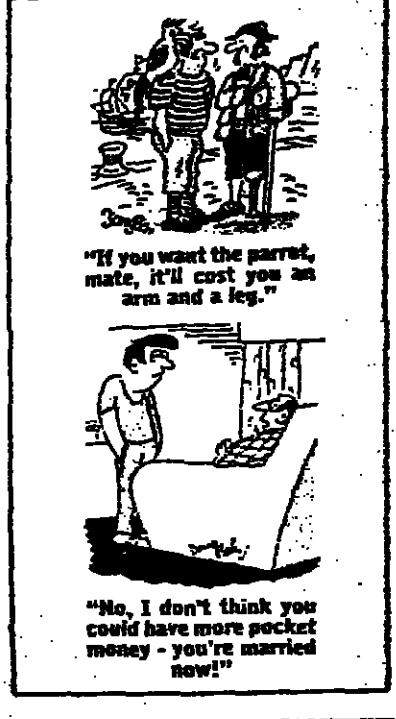
Suppose you reach four spades on the above auction, and West leads the king of hearts. How do you plan the play?

You have two sure losers in clubs, but no loser in either red suit. Therefore, your only problem is to limit your trump losers to one. If West holds three trumps headed by the

king, you have two unavoidable losers; but the chances of West having trump length are slight, since he is known to have six hearts. If anyone has three trumps, it is more likely to be East.

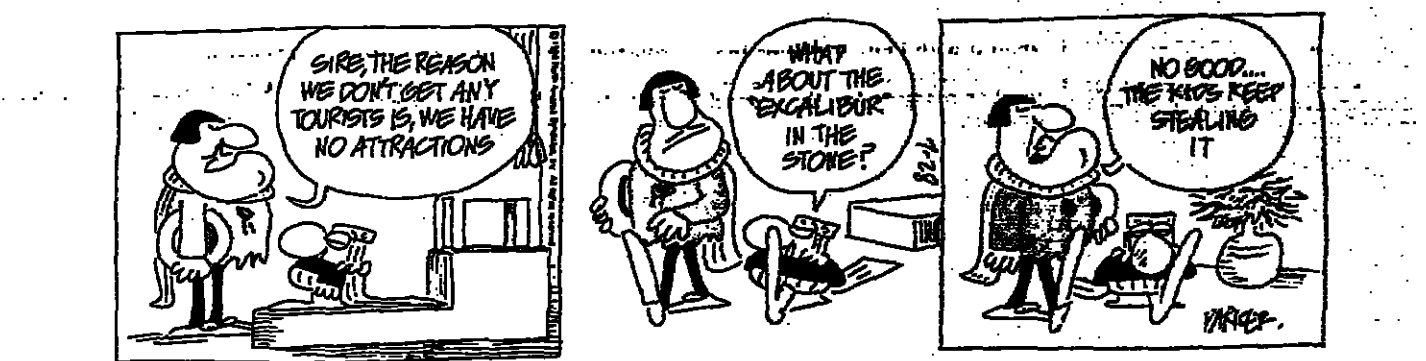
It might seem, therefore, that the percentage play is to take the trump finesse. However, that would result in your losing two trump tricks if the cards lie as in the diagram.

Correct technique is to win the ace of hearts and lead a trump to the ace. If the cards are as above, you drop the king and lose only one trump trick to East. And what if the king does not drop? You cross back to dummy with a diamond and lead another spade. If East follows with any trump other than the king, you simply cover. Should West win, all the trumps are exhausted. If he shows out, East scores only the king of trumps. This line runs the minimum risk that East has three trumps headed by the king and only a doubleton club, in which case he might maneuver a club ruff. The odds, however, make this line highly attractive.



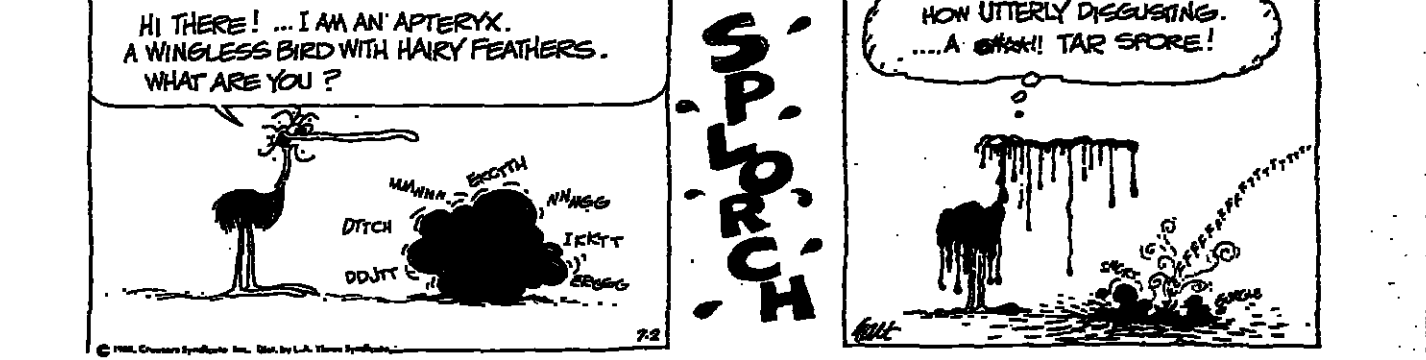
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

Aries (March 20 - April 18)
You will be able to get a lot done but you must work hard at it. Do not try to do more than one thing at a time. Persevere if to learn takes longer than you would wish. Be reasonable.

Cancer (June 21 - July 21)
You must take steps to avoid all kinds of confusion. There is a tendency to be long-winded which should be combated. You will not find it so easy to persuade others. Be responsive.

Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)
The Moon's better influence coupled with that of Saturn will help you to look at things more objectively. You ought not leave a matter that should be dealt with now until later. Make sure you do not do anything that would be injurious to your health. Be frank.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)
You have a lot to do and there is no time to lose. You should make sure that you do not set your face against change. Avoid anything that would distract you from what you are doing just now. Be more flexible.

Taurus (April 19 - May 19)
There are favourable influences affecting your personal life. You should make sure you do not allow a routine matter to fall behind. You will find it easier to maintain harmony. Be tolerant.

Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)
You have the wind in your sails but you must check up that you are heading in the right direction. You should try to look on the positive side of things. Do all you can to keep calm whatever the provocation. Be sensible.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)
You will find it easier to get things organised provided you keep tidy. You will be able to dispose of something that is no longer of much use to you. Make sure others understand what you are saying. Be resilient.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)
You should not give precedence to anything that is only of secondary importance. You will be able to discover what you have been going wrong. You should leave a little more time for your personal affairs. Be resolute.

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)
You should not spend too long chatting on the phone. Your personal charm will be at its height. There will be a more fortunate turn of events but you must not trust to luck. Be resolute.

Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)
You will be able to solve a problem that has been with you for some time. You should be more patient where a personal matter is concerned. Avoid making too much noise and keep out of noisy places. Be hopeful.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)
You should not try to be too clever. You will have a good idea but others will not be very receptive to it. You will be a little too easily satisfied. Be prompt.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)
You will be able to make up for lost time only if you get a move on. For the moment do not concern yourself with secondary matters. Do not believe all that people say to you or you read. Be more observant.

ANDY CAPP

By Smith



BUSINESS & FINANCE

Kuwait could develop as a regional financial centre

Peace prospects to give new fillip to economy

By Lima Al Khalafawi

AN end to the Iran-Iraq war is certain to give a boost to most economic sectors in Kuwait. Speaking on the effects of peace after eight years of war in the Gulf region, the Chief Economist of the National Bank of Kuwait Dr Ziad Takry said that Kuwait economy would immensely benefit from this action.

He said in relation to the stock market and in the short-term, the most important factor is the return of confidence to the market. The war has had a negative effect on the economic and financial markets and resulted in the exploration of investment opportunities abroad.

In the medium term, the share holding companies and other

companies are expected to benefit from the increased economic activities generated from the return of peace to the region.

They are expecting both Iraq and Iran to rely on Kuwait and other neighbouring countries for the supply of goods and services. This should work towards increasing profitability of those companies, and result in the increase utilisation of existing inventories or and excess capacities.

Outlook
Takry added that on the long-term the outlook for these companies depend on the distinct competitive advantages they could develop and maintain after both Iraq and Iran reconquer and develop their productive capacities in the sectors of which Kuwaiti companies are involved at present.

Concerning the real estate sector, he disclosed that prices should benefit from the return of confidence into the market plus the increased economic activities which would open up employment opportunities in Kuwait for the labour force, including those graduates entering the labour force in the coming five years.

About maritime transportation and transit commerce, Takry said that reliance on the neighbouring countries for the import of goods and services should generate more business for the accompanying services in different sectors.

Interest
The increased interest of these companies in the region which is expected to witness more peaceful investment should work towards the rates or premium

being paid for such services.

The important factor to put into consideration is that Kuwait will always play a unique role in the region, in providing these services due to its proximity and relatively advanced level of sophistication and knowhow of its institutions.

Savings
Speaking on the banking and financial system Takry said that the system will be actively playing an important role in different areas, first in providing the trade finances as well as working capital for all the institutions participating in the economic reactivating process.

And in the medium term, he said, Kuwait could develop as a regional financial centre with several savings and investment instruments that could play a

vital part in channelling these savings and accumulating wealth of the private sector into the various commercial and industrial projects in Kuwait and the region.

He added that the further development of the financial infrastructure in terms of institutions and instruments should work towards not only keeping internally generated funds but also encouraging the influx of capital from abroad, particularly that the monitoring authorities have succeeded so far in maintaining relative stability in the foreign exchange market and the financial system of Kuwait.

Significant
About the oil market situation, Takry said, that the main factors affecting the oil market situation depends on two sig-

nificant forces that will be at work to determine the level of production and prices in the international market.

On one hand, the return of peace and security to the region and the safe conduct of navigation in the Gulf should bring the OPEC members in the Gulf together.

Also, there will always be the need for both countries, Iraq and Iran to produce and export above their OPEC quotas because of the heavy burden they will be under to meet their debt commitments and the reconstruction of the economic infrastructure.

Takry said that it is hoped that in the coming period more of their limited resources will be directed towards economic and social projects rather than into war machinery expenses.

World Business Summary

Hong Kong Stock Exchange votes for reorganisation

HONG KONG, July 20, (Reuters): Members of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange voted today for a major reorganisation of the bourse aimed at improving its image following last October's global stock crash. The vote approved the proposed replacement of the exchange's six-member management committee with a 22-strong council. The change will mean that management of the exchange, currently dominated by locally based stockbrokers, will be opened to outside professionals and foreign institutions. The Hong Kong government had indicated it would enforce the change if members did not vote in favour. The restructuring was called for by the Securities Review Committee, a group headed by former Lloyd's of London deputy chairman Ian Hay Davison that was appointed to review local financial markets. A committee report published last month said "an inside group treated the exchange as a private club rather than a public utility for the general benefit of members, investors and issuers." The exchange was shut down for four days during last October's crash, raising allegations by investors and the group was protecting its own interests. Exchange officials said a total of 156 members, representing more than 250 of the 930 seats in the market, turned out for today's ballot and voted unanimously for the proposal. A quorum of 50 was needed for a vote on the resolution. Robert Fell, chief executive of the bourse, said members had taken "the best line for the stock exchange."

Canada and oil firms sign pact to develop Hibernia

ST JOHN'S, Newfoundland, July 20, (Reuters): The Canadian government, Newfoundland province and five oil companies have signed an agreement to develop the massive Hibernia oilfield, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney said yesterday. The cost of the project is estimated at \$7 billion. Hibernia is in the Grand Banks about 195 miles (325 km) southeast of St John's. The oil will be produced by a concrete drilling platform attached to the ocean floor. The governments and the consortium of oil companies led by Mobil Corp's Mobil Oil Canada Ltd said operating costs would be \$9.5 billion after Hibernia, off the east coast of Newfoundland, starts producing oil in six years. Mulroney said Canada would contribute \$826 million in grants and up to \$1.3 billion in loan guarantees. The 500-million-barrel field, discovered in 1979, is expected to produce 110,000 barrels of crude oil a day starting in 1995. Its development has been delayed by depressed oil prices and by jurisdictional differences between the Canadian and Newfoundland governments. The project is expected to create 1,100 permanent jobs and several hundred temporary jobs during construction in the province, which has Canada's highest unemployment rate. Mobil is the project operator with a 28.1 per cent stake in the project. Other members of the consortium are Gulf Canada Resources Ltd with a 25 per cent stake, state-run Petro-Canada with 25 per cent, Chevron Corp's Chevron Canada Resources Ltd with 16.4 per cent, and Columbia Gas Development of Canada Ltd with 5.4 per cent.

EEC proposes subsidising some farm sales to Third World

BRUSSELS, Belgium, July 20, (AP): The European Economic Community Commission today proposed offering soft loans to boost sales of surplus food stocks to developing countries. Under the plan, which needs approval of the EEC's 12 member states, the trade bloc would subsidise at least 35 per cent of the sales through a combination of lower interest rates on commercial loans and long repayment periods. Although its budget will amount to only 76 million Ecu (\$85.1 million) next year, the plan is being proposed at a sensitive moment in international negotiations to reduce subsidies to agriculture, an EEC official, who asked not to be named, said.

The commission said the plan was not intended to increase the EEC's penetration of Third World markets. However, the commission added that the trade bloc's share of the African food market had declined sharply in recent years. Under the plan, the EEC would continue to provide the standard export restitution as well as the soft loan.

EEC pledges more aid

BRUSSELS, July 20, (Reuters): The European Economic Community (EEC) will step up its short-term aid to developing countries but can offer no magic solution to the problem of rock bottom commodity prices, a senior EEC official said today. Dieter Frisch, director-general of development at the Community's executive commission, said there was no mechanism in the world that could balance supply and demand in key commodities like cocoa, where stocks had reached half the level of world annual consumption. "There is no miracle solution for this question of stabilising prices, either in this Lome convention or a future convention," he told journalists. Commodity prices will be a key issue in October when the Community starts crucial negotiations with a 66-nation group of African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries on a new Lome pact on aid and trade. Frisch, speaking after an informal meeting with ACP ministers and officials in Senegal last week to discuss the key issues in the Lome talks, said Third World countries needed help to adapt their production to market needs, and channel investment away from "sectors with no future."

Cocoa prices fall sharply

LONDON, July 20, (UPI): Cocoa prices have been falling sharply since reports hit commodity markets last week that Ivory Coast, which for months has been withholding stocks in a bid to boost prices, had begun selling again, commodity dealers in London said today. Cocoa for the spot position (July) fell to a selling price of \$960 (\$163.2) per metric ton in early trading today — a drop of nearly £100 (\$170) per metric ton since the middle of last week. Some positions in cocoa touched five-month lows last week on the basis of the refusal of Ivory Coast, the world's biggest cocoa producer, to sell at what it saw as cut-rate prices. Four successive years of surplus production have depressed the cocoa market, and world prices sank to their lowest for five years in April at about \$880 (\$150.48) per metric ton. Even efforts by the International Cocoa Organisation (ICCO), which represents both producers and consumers, to mop up some of the glut by swelling its buffer stocks to the permitted maximum failed to halt the downward spiral. The Ivory Coast has not named a minimum price, but traders said today it was holding out for a level of 1,200 French francs per 100 kg for immediate delivery — equivalent to around £1,150 (\$1,966) per metric ton.

New bureau to oversee quality

BEIJING, July 20, (AP): China has set up a new state bureau to oversee efforts to reduce the number of shoddy, substandard goods on the market and help Chinese products meet international standards, an official newspaper said today. State councillor Song Jian said on Tuesday that the state bureau of technical supervision will strengthen supervision over technology and establish a system of standardisation and measurement, the China Daily said. The bureau will manage and adjust national standards on production, development, distribution and consumption. Song said the country must actively adopt international standards and a system of international quality authentication to make Chinese goods more competitive on world markets. He said that since China initiated its economic reforms in 1979, the country has put into effect more than 11,000 state standards and 500 measurement regulations. But he said substandard products remain a serious problem for China.

Inflation hits 56.7pc in Poland

WARSAW, Poland, July 20, (AP): A government official revealed retail price inflation reached 56.7 per cent in the first six months of the year.

Wages went up even faster, by 63.8 per cent, said the report published in a government newspaper. The increase would put the national average wage on July 1 at about 47,600 zlotys (\$106) a month, compared to 29,299 zlotys (\$91) on Jan 1.

"The principal goal for next year is to be the radical reduction of inflation, which is now the most important single factor standing in the way of increasing the efficiency of industrial production in Poland," said an official statement issued on Tuesday after a meeting by the council of ministers.

The government newspaper Rzeczpospolita published next to the council of ministers' statement an interview with government economist Erwin Plichcinski, in which he gave the inflation figures.

The growth of wages faster than prices has led to a worrying inflation gap, said Plichcinski.

The 56.7 per cent inflation for the first six months of 1988 exceeds initial projections for the entire year. Poland's central annual plan had projected growth in prices of 40 to 44 per cent in 1988, with wages planned to rise 36 per cent. Prices rose 42 per cent in the first quarter alone.

Meanwhile, in an instance of continuing wage pressure, the state-owned news agency PAP on Tuesday said a pay dispute disrupted some of the operations at a coal mine for two days. No information was available on details of the settlement of the dispute.

Egypt, UAE sign economic co-operation accord

ABU DHABI, July 20, (Reuters): Egyptian Economy and Trade Minister Youssef Mustapha signed an economic co-operation accord with the UAE today, the emirates' WAM news agency said.

WAM said Mustapha and his UAE counterpart Seif Ali Al-Jarwan signed the accord designed to boost trade, investment and technical co-operation after eight years of political estrangement.

Isolation
The UAE restored relations with Egypt in November after the Amman Arab League summit cleared the way for Arab states to end Cairo's diplomatic isolation caused by its 1979 peace treaty with Israel.

Trade between Egypt and the emirates was worth \$29 million in 1987, down from \$42 million the year before, according to the Egyptian embassy.

More banks in US post robust earnings

NEW YORK, July 20: Helped along by one-time gains, asset sales and extraordinary items, US banks continued to post hefty earnings gains against last year's loss-ridden second quarter, according to the Wall Street Journal.

J.P. Morgan & Co., Chase Manhattan Corp., Manufacturers Hanover Corp., and Continental Illinois Corp. all reported vastly improved profit compared with last year, when many wrote off the bulk of their Latin American debt.

"They all look good compared to last year because of the special loan-loss provisions. So the better comparison is in respect to the first quarter. Now we're seeing weaker operating results," said Mark Alpert, banking analyst with Bear, Stearns & Co.

Improvement

With the cost of funds rising faster during the second quarter than banks recovered in higher interest rates, "they experienced some squeeze in margins," said Richard Mueller, banking analyst with Duff & Phelps Inc. Several reported flat or slightly weaker margins for the second quarter.

Analysts noted that last week's jump in the prime rate to 9 1/2 per cent from 9 per cent should help banks catch up with the cost of funds — at least for a while.

Analysts noted that recent belt-tightening at many banks helped the bottom line during the quarter, as did improvement in non-performing assets.

J.P. Morgan & Co.: The New York bank's net pushed solidly ahead in the second quarter but fell short of its first-quarter performance.

Morgan reported net of \$228.7 million, or \$1.23 a share, compared with a year-earlier loss of \$586.4 million. In the first quarter, it earned \$281.4 million, or \$1.52 a share. That period included a gain of \$43 million from a tax refund and related interest.

Morgan's loan-loss provision shrank to \$30 million in the latest quarter from \$875 million in the year-earlier period. But the benefit of a pared-down loss provision was partially offset by a decline in net interest income and a rise in non-interest operating expenses, the bank said.

Income

Total operating income rose compared with last year, but declined from the level of the first quarter. Notably, operating income from corporate finance activity — which includes merger and acquisition fees — as well as income largely from bond trading slowed from the first quarter.

Morgan's net interest spread narrowed to 2.5 per cent from 2.78 per cent a year earlier,

Average interest-earning assets were slightly higher at \$72.6 billion, compared with \$72 billion.

Chase Manhattan Corp.: The New York bank tagged on the "extras" in the second quarter and first half.

Its net income of \$224 million, or \$2.45 a share, in the quarter included a gain of \$69 million from the sale of an equity interest in Cain Chemical Inc. held by its Chase Manhattan Investment Holdings unit. Like some other banks this quarter, Chase also utilised US tax benefits arising from the year-earlier quarter's special reserves for possible credit losses. Chase said it used \$35 million of the tax credits in the latest quarter and \$75 million in the first half.

Earnings

The bank's first-half net of \$501 million also included gains of \$61 million from the sale of its Interactive Data Corp. unit and \$59 million from the sale of a branch office building in Paris, as well as the gain from Cain Chemical.

Chase said its year-to-year second quarter earnings comparison reflected relatively flat net interest income and increases in trading-account income, investment securities gains and trust and fiduciary fees.

Chase's net interest margin in

the second quarter was 3.73 per cent, compared with 3.77 per cent in the year-earlier quarter. Average interest-earning assets in the quarter fell to \$84.3 billion from \$85.5 billion.

Continental Illinois Corp.: Aided by expense control and some one-time gains from asset sales, the banking concern reported solid second-quarter net of \$60.2 million, or 24 cents a share, compared with a year-earlier loss of \$476.9 million, when it added \$500 million to its foreign-loan reserves.

The Chicago-based parent company of Continental Illinois National Bank & Trust Co. of Chicago said net interest income — the difference between interest taken in on loans and interest paid out on deposits — rose about 5 per cent to \$150.4 million during the period. Non-interest income increased 11 per cent to \$109.6 million, mostly as a result of \$15.6 million in gains on the sale of real estate, venture capital investments and other assets.

During the quarter, Continental continued to reduce its loans to Latin American countries and other debtor nations, to about \$1.7 billion as of June 30, down \$250 million so far this year.

Non-performing loans — those 60 days or more delinquent at Continental — rose about 8 per cent to \$733 million. More than two-thirds of them were to

debtor nations. Continental charged off \$25.1 million of such loans and \$4.9 million of other loans during the period.

Continental's year-old strategy of selling more of the loans it makes showed up in its balance sheet for the quarter, as total assets declined to \$32.4 billion, down \$1 billion from a year earlier, and loans fell by about \$1.5 billion.

Manufacturers Hanover Corp.: The banking concern reported second-quarter net of \$403.1 million, or \$7.93 a share, compared with a year-earlier loss of \$137 billion. The hefty net was buoyed by a gain of \$291.3 million, including tax benefits, from the sale of its consumer finance subsidiary. The quarter also included an after-tax gain of \$16.2 million on the sale of two branch buildings.

At the same time, the bank said it slashed non-performing assets by \$250 million and benefited from the more than doubling of profit at its CIT Group unit from \$13.9 million a year earlier.

Manufacturers, which has a goal of cutting staff by about 2,500 this year, said it had pared about 2,400 jobs as of June 30. Including the 2,800 or so employees who were part of the consumer finance subsidiary, total employment stands at 23,956, down 5,800 from a year earlier.

Ceasefire will boost oil prices, says Oteiba

ABU DHABI, July 20, (Reuters): UAE Oil Minister Mana Said Al-Oteiba said today an Iran-Iraq ceasefire would strengthen OPEC and boost oil prices to the group's benchmark level of \$18 per barrel.

The official news agency WAM quoted Oteiba as saying a ceasefire would have a positive impact on world oil markets, depressed recently by overproduction and high stock levels. Oteiba said: "Prices, which have risen significantly in the past two days, will continue to climb until they reach their official level of \$18 a barrel."

The initial reaction to Monday's news that Iran had decided to accept the year-old UN ceasefire resolution initially pushed oil prices up by nearly one dollar per barrel but they still remain well below the 13-nation organisation's benchmark.

Oteiba was speaking after a meeting with the UAE's Ambassador to the UAE, Taher Rajab Oreim.

Cohesion

The minister said an end to the Iran-Iraq war would strengthen the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), enhance its cohesion and restore its leadership role.

"In the light of the latest developments, OPEC will impose the just and official prices for its crudes," he said.

The UAE has been at odds with OPEC since the last ministerial meeting in Vienna in June when Oteiba said the Gulf nation's quota of 948,000 barrels per day was too low.

The cabinet later backed his rejection of the ceiling, saying a fair amount would be 1.5 million barrels. Abu Dhabi, the main oil producer in the seven-empire confederation, then ordered its oil companies to step up output.

Oteiba said he welcomed a visit to the UAE-planned later this month, by OPEC secretary-general Subroto, adding the UAE "will co-operate with OPEC as it has done in the past and will back its positions."

Stepping up good securities on capital market

Call for tax relief on equity

CALCUTTA, July 20: If the supply of good securities on the capital market is to be stepped up, the strong preference for debt by the Indian industry has to be reduced by making equity eligible for tax concessions according to Dr S.A. Dave, chairman, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).

Besides, Dr Dave feels that progressive de-emphasis on rights issues and reservation of a part of such issues for the general public, could be considered with a view to enlarging the shareholder base and further that additional tax deductions should be forthcoming to benefit subscribers to new issues, especially smaller issues, the Economic Times has reported.

Addressing a seminar on "primary capital market," organised jointly by the Calcutta Stock Exchange Association and the Stockbroker Underwriters' Association here last week, Dr Dave said, in order to minimise volatility of share prices and evoke good investor response to primary issues, the availability of good securities on the capital

market needed to be substantially increased. This, he felt, could be achieved through the twin measures of making equity more attractive to issuers by reducing the servicing cost and asking financial institutions to insist on greater equity financing than at present.

Debt

Since interest payable on debt was exempted from tax, some similar tax concessions on equity were called for, in order to make it more attractive. In his view, five to 10 per cent of the net worth of a company, could be exempted from taxation in years when companies registered profits. Dr Dave observed that it would be better to link tax concessions with net worth rather than paid-up capital or actual declaration of dividend as it would encourage larger retention of profits and liquidity for use internally, by the company.

The SEBI chairman noted that companies should gradually reduce their dependence on rights issues as a means of mobilising resources as this basically rewarded only existing sharehol-

ders, though not necessarily the original shareholders. While there was some merit in rewarding existing shareholders, such issues kept out a large group of potential investors who might respond if rendered eligible to apply. He added that though rights issues may evoke good response, they did not strengthen the shareholding population and thus if a part of the issue was left open for the general public, the shareholding habit would spread much faster.

Incentives

Dr Dave further observed that like issuers who needed to be provided with incentives to issue larger equity, there was also a need to come up with incentives for subscribers of new equity. While some tax concessions were extended under Section 80 CC, they needed to be substantially raised in a manner by which smaller issues would receive better treatment. He suggested that all investors subscribing to new issues of companies upto Rs three crores may be given 100 per cent tax deductions upto an amount of Rs one lakh. For lar-

ger issues tax deductions could be confined to 50 per cent at present.

The SEBI chairman pointed out that companies making public issues of upto Rs three crores found it difficult to get their issues subscribed to, as was evident from the fact that 90 per cent of underwriting obligations of institutions were for such companies.

This particular segment of the market, he felt, required an altogether different approach by which institutions and private firms would have to play an important role in initial subscription before the issue came to the market. This called for a structural reform and the creation of a market of the type of Unlisted Securities Market (USM) in UK, for this segment of companies, would have to be considered, he added.

Dr Dave felt that market prices had moved far in excess of what current economic realities and reasonable expectations about the future could justify, while there was potential for

(Continued on Page 12)

African producers want to team with OPEC to halt oil price fall

COTONOU, July 20, (Reuters): African oil producers ended a ministerial meeting yesterday saying they wanted to team up with OPEC to halt a current oil price slide.

A final communiqué said the council of ministers of the African Petroleum Producers Association (APPA) examined the current market situation in detail and felt concerned about declining prices.

Concern
"The council expressed its willingness to associate itself with co-operation efforts among OPEC and other oil producers in order to stop the dangerous price drop and to restore market stability," the document said. Nigeria's Riwun Lukman, president of OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting

Countries), told reporters many oil producers both within and outside OPEC were concerned about the current price decline.

"I have received telexes from both OPEC and non-OPEC expressing concern. Mexico and many others have sent me telexes," he said.

Rapidly declining revenue has hit crude oil producers including APPA's eight member nations as oil prices fall sharply in a supply-gut.

The association groups four OPEC members, Nigeria, Algeria, Libya and Gabon, with non-OPEC Angola, Benin, Cameroon and Congo. Together the eight pump nearly five million barrels per day (BPD) of crude oil, just under 10 per cent of world output.

Ivory Coast, Egypt, Ghana

and Zaire attended the meeting as observers. Delegates said the four were expected to join eventually but did not say when that would be.

The meeting in the Benin capital was the third by APPA ministers since the group was launched in Lagos, Nigeria, in January 1987.

Representative

The communiqué said their next regular meeting would be held in Yaounde, Cameroon in January 1989 and the chief representative of Cameroon's Oil Ministry Jean Assoumou was elected APPA president for the next six months.

The group's declared objective is to share information on their oil industries and co-ordinate exploration, output and eventually pricing policies.

Oil exports on the rise

JAKARTA, July 20, (OPEC-NA): Indonesia earned \$1.45 billion from its oil sales during the first quarter of this year, according to figures from Bank Indonesia, the central bank.

The total was an increase of about four per cent compared to 1.40 billion earned in the same period last year.

Pertamina, the Indonesian state oil company, accounted for \$680 million of the total, while the rest came from sales by foreign oil companies operating under production-sharing contracts.

The March figure, amounting to more than \$587 million, was the highest monthly average.

Exports of liquefied natural gas (LNG) during the first quarter amounted to \$854.11 million, compared to \$42.47 million during the same period of 1987, an increase of about 32 per cent.

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LONDON
(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	INCHCAPE	225.0
ABBEY LIFE	320.0	JAGUAR	295.0
ADT LTD	145.0	LAOBBROKE	428.0
ALD LYONS	424.0	LAND SECS	555.0
ALSTRAD	225.0	LAPORTE	425.0
ARGYLL GP	190.0	LASMO	467.0
ASDA GP	157.0	LEGAL+GEN	320.0
BAA	278.0	LEONHRO	248.0
BTR	278.0	LUCAS IND	548.0
BAT IND	419.0	MAGNET	249.0
BARCLAYS	417.0	MARKS+SP	173.0
BASS	785.0	MAXWELL C	228.0
BEAZER	187.0	METAL BOX	228.0
BEECHAMS	479.0	NEPC	524.0
BERTSFORD	375.0	NIDLAND BK	438.0
BICC PLC	347.0	NTH FOODS	307.0
BLUE ARMY	111.0	P & O DFD	573.0
BLUE CIRC	451.0	PEARL	487.0
BOC GP	413.0	PEARSON	740.0
BOOTS CO	232.0	PILKINGTON	214.5
BPB IND	272.0	PLESLEY	174.0
BR COM	237.0	PRUDENTIAL	169.0
BR AIRWAY	50.00	RACAL	352.0
BR AEROSP	489.0	RANK RVIS	479.0
BR GAS RG	185.0	RANK ORG	727.0
BR GAS RT	175.0	RCKITT+CO	928.0
B.P.	264.5	REDLAND	413.0
B.P. NEW	63.0	REED	423.0
B.P. RT		RMC GRP	483.0
BURMAN OL	252.0	REUTERS	543.0
BURTON	224.0	RTZ CORP.	434.0
CABLESWIR	372.0	ROLLS ROY	144.0
CADISBURY	390.0	ROTHMAN B	424.0
CAVAT VNY	279.0	ROUNTREE	070.0
COWS GOLD	060.0	ROYAL INS	409.0
COOKSON	62.75	SAATCHI	323.0
COURTAULD	344.0	SCOT+NEW	225.0
DALGETY	367.0	SEARS	136.0
DEE CP	185.0	SEEDWICK	238.0
DIXONS	185.0	SHELL	268.0
ENG CHINA	470.0	SMITH IND	24.87
ENTER OIL	463.0	STC	286.0
FKI BARCK	127.0	STORESKA	244.0
FERRANTI	89.0	SUN ALLIA	985.0
GEN ALEC	912.0	TARNAC	37.00
GEN ELEC	159.0	TATE+LYLE	855.0
GLAXO	987.0	TESCO	150.0
GRANADA	303.0	THORN INT	625.0
GLOBE	143.0	TRAF HSE	305.0
GLYNED	304.0	TSE	108.0
GRAND MET	155.0	T + N	178.5
GUARD RYL	31.66	TRUSTHE	256.0
GUINNESS	326.0	ULTRAMAR	296.0
HMMERSA A	617.0	UNILEVER	473.0
HANSON	143.0	UNIGATE	328.0
HMCR SID	537.0	UTD BISC	315.0
HILLSDOWN	280.0	UTD WSPR	430.0
ICI	065.0	WELLCOE	522.0
INI	210.0	WILLIAMS IN	52.0
		WILLIS FB	262.0
		WINPEY GE	237.0
		WOOLWORTH	288.0

LONDON
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
1ST CHARL	12/4	13/0
2ND ALLCE	744.0	745.0
A B PORTS	519.0	517.0
A.B.ELECT	440.0	443.0
AAB KENT	94.0	94.0
AAH HLD	274.0	273.0
AARONSON	116.0	116.0
ACRE OIL	220.0	221.0
ADDISON	41.0	42.0
ADVEST	356.0	356.0
ALEX WIKW	173.0	172.0
ALEXON	398.0	397.0
ALLCO COLL	131.0	132.0
ALLCO TR B	273.0	272.0
ALLCO LDN	125.0	125.0
ALLCO PLNT	60.0	61.0
ALLIANCE	835.0	835.0
AMARI	262.0	263.0
AMEC	366.0	366.0
AMER TRST	126.0	126.0
AMERSHAM	448.0	446.0
ANI HLTHC	219.0	219.0
ANGLIA TV	180.0	179.0
ANGLO O'S	213.0	214.0
ANSBACHER	85.0	86.0
APPLEYARD	483.0	483.0
APRICOT	120.0	121.0
APV PLC	116.0	117.0
AQUAS.A.	78.0	78.0
ARAN ENGY	83.0	83.0
ARCHER AJ	139.0	140.0
ARLINGTON	196.0	196.0
ARMSTRONG	138.0	139.0
ASS NEUS	498.0	498.0
ASTRA HLD	33.0	33.0
AT ASST	51.4	51.0
ATLANTIC CH	495.0	492.0
ATWOODS	298.0	298.0
AUS REE A	278.0	277.0
AUST REE	378.0	378.0
AUTO SECS	253.0	254.0
AVON RUBB	730.0	730.0
B. MEINILL	176.0	177.0
BALL SHI	85.0	85.0
BALCO (W)	265.0	265.0
BANK IRE	253.0	252.0
BAKWER IT	73.0	74.0
BARKER DO	135.0	134.0
BARRY DEV	178.0	178.0
BAYNES C.	30.0	30.0
BBA GROUP	182.0	182.0
BEAR B.U	5.4	6.0
BEAR BRND	11.0	11.0
BELHAVEN	47.0	48.0
BELLMAY	253.0	253.0
BENROSE	221.0	221.0
BEMLD HD	52.0	53.0
BENTALLS	184.0	185.0
BHAM MINT	166.0	167.0
BIRMD OL	400.0	400.0
BK OF SCO	397.0	397.0

BLACK LE 2	16/2	16/0
BNETT +F	35/0	36/0
BOASE MAS	255/0	253/0
BOODINGTON	170/0	171/0
BOOY SHOP	635/0	635/0
BOOKER	419.0	410/0
BOOTH HENR	368/0	368/0
BORTHWICK	68/0	69/0
BOUMATER	414/0	415/0
BR DREDGI	151/0	150/0
BR LAND	330/0	330/0
BR VITA	231/0	231/0
BRAMMER	245/0	245/0
BRENT CHE	156/0	157/0
BRENT WCR	424/0	423/0
BRITANNIC	372/0	372/0
BRIXTON E	324/0	324/0
BULMER HP	194/0	193/0
CALOR GRP	379/0	378/0
CAMB ELEC	251/0	251/0
CAMB INST	56/0	56/0
CAMPFORD E	183/0	183/0
CANNING W	241/0	241/0
CANNON ST	307/0	308/0
CAP GRP	303/0	303/0
CAP RPD	301/0	303/0
CARLICO EN	165/0	165/0
CARLESS C	119/0	119/0
CARLTON C	773/0	773/0
CASE GRP	97/4	96/4
CATER ALL	360/0	360/0
CAULDON	13/0	13/0
CHAM PHPP	155/0	154/0
CHARTERMA	21/4	21/4
CHAS CHUR	110/0	110/0
CHORIDE	57/0	57/0
CHRISTIES	549/0	550/0
CI GROUP	47/0	48/0
CLOYDE PET	134/0	134/0
CNTR SEC	57/0	57/0
CNTRY OIL	167/0	169/0
COATES BR	325/0	323/0
COLLINS A	480/0	478/0
COLLINS W	573/0	568/0
COLOROLL	185/0	185/0
CONNELLS	305/0	303/0
COSTAIN	303/0	303/0
COURTS FR	308/0	308/0
COMIE (T)	110/0	111/0
CREST NICK	208/0	208/0
CRN	140/0	141/0
CRODA INT	208/0	209/0
CROTHIER	183/0	185/0
CRYSTALAT	161/0	161/0
DARES EST	33/0	33/0
DAUSON IN	229/0	228/0
DE LA RUE	460/0	458/0
DELTA GRP	307/0	307/0
DEVENISH	329/0	330/0
DIPLOMA	234/0	236/0
DOVY GRP	213/0	213/0
DRAYTON C	454/0	455/0
DRG	452/0	453/0
DUNHILL	209/0	208/0
EAGLE ST	15/2	15/4
EDIN I.T.	154/4	156/0
ELECTRA	206/0	207/0
ELECTROCH	218/0	218/0
ELLIS EVA	195/0	196/0
ELLIS GOL	137/4	137/4
EMPIRE ST	228/0	228/0
ERA GROUP	85/0	86/0
ETAH	241/0	243/0
EURO V RG	24/0	24/0
EURO.HOME	325/0	325/0
EUROTHERM	392/0	392/0
EUROTRN RL	341/0	341/0
EVERED HG	115/0	115/0
EVODE GRP	190/0	190/0
EXPANET	206/0	205/0
F&C EUROF	216/0	216/0
F&C PACIT	132/0	133/0
F&C SMILL	71/0	72/0
FARNELL E	177/0	178/0
FED.HOUSH	299/0	300/0
FENNER JR	160/0	160/0
FERGUSON	270/0	271/0
FITCH LOV	290/0	290/0
FLM AEM	126/4	127/0
FLM CLAV	252/4	255/0
FLM JEA	182/0	185/0
FLM JPN	205/0	206/0
FLM MESC	180/4	181/0
FLM OSEA	162/0	162/0
FLM TECH	184/4	187/0
FLM UNIV	146/0	147/0
FOSSCO HI	252/0	253/0
FR GROUP	239/0	240/0
FRESHBARK	160/0	158/0
FST LEISF	147/0	146/0
FST NATR	234/0	234/0
FST SCOT	390/0	391/0
FT & COL	107/6	108/4
GARDINER	44/0	44/0
GEEST	285/0	286/0
GEI INTL	141/0	142/0
GESTETTER	234/0	237/0
GOAL PET	118/0	118/0
GP	60/0	61/0
GRANPH HD	278/0	278/0
GREEN KNG	464/0	463/0
GREENLW T	232/0	234/0
GREYCOAT	413/0	413/0
GRUP TV A	48/0	49/0
GT.PTLD	338/0	338/0
GUS ORD	640/0	650/0
GVTY ORIE	292/0	294/0
GVTY STRA	252/0	253/0
H/LIND DIS	122/0	124/0
HALL (M)	145/0	145/0
HALMA	179/0	178/0
HAMBROS I	218/0	218/0

NEW YORK

NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY
A BSCN COM	30/2	30/1
ATLANTIC R	81/1	81/3
AAR CORP	26/7	26/7
ABBOTT LAB	44/7	44/5
ADMC CLVD	11/2	11/1
AD MICRO	13/7	13/5
AEROF LAB	8/5	8/6
AETNA LIFE	44/6	44/6
ARMANSON	15/5	15/4
AIR PR-CHM	49/7	49/6
ALBERTA AIR	19/5	19/4
ALBERTSONS	32/6	32/5
ALPHA 8-16	0	82/4
ALCAN ALUM	32/6	32/5
ALCO STAND	24/0	23/7
AN CYNADOT	49/5	49/4
AN ELET PM	27/7	27/6
AN HON PRO	73/6	73/1
AN HON PRO	79/5	79/7
AN STNARD	0	77/6
AN STORES	48/3	48/2
AN TEL-TEL	26/5	26/5
ANOCO CORP	76/3	76/0
AMP INC	47/6	47/7
AMP CO PITT	0	13/0
AMP CORP	47/1	47/0
AMP GEN CO	30/4	30/6
AMERADA HE	28/7	28/5
ANTHEM ELE	13/1	13/0
APACHE CP	7/4	7/3
APACHE PET	2/7	2/7
ARMSTRONG	36/6	36/4
ASHLID OIL	73/3	73/6
ASIA PACIF	7/0	7/0
ATLS CORP	0	36/4
AVERT INT	25/0	25/0
AVNET INC	25/6	25/6
AVON PRODS	24/7	24/7
BCE INC	30/4	30/4
BELL SOUTH	41/3	41/0
BELO CP A	29/1	29/1
BETH STEEL	24/4	24/2
BEVERLY	7/0	7/0
TOZER KGM	94/0	94/0
TR CITY	75/0	75/0
TR INDUS	118/0	118/0
TR PACIFIC	58/0	58/0
TR STEET	126/0	126/0
TRAMCO	22/0	22/0
TRAVISAR	351/0	352/0
TRINCO	44/0	44/0
TRIPLEX	195/0	196/0
TRMCO	7/0	7/0
TRSPOT DV	233/0	234/0
TURRIF	319/0	318/0
TU SOUTH	330/0	330/0
TYLER WDRD	438/0	438/0
TYNDALL	139/0	140/0
U-BORLAND	107/0	107/0
U-BRD ST	46/0	46/0
U-BRYANT	105/0	91/0
U-CITYVSN	83/0	83/0
U-CLUFF	102/0	102/0
U-DEWEY	128/0	128/0
U-ELDRGE	475/0	475/0
U-FIELDS	90/0	90/0
U-FLOD E	24/0	24/0
U-HARTM	43/4	44/0
U-HUHL HT	92/0	90/0
U-HUGHES	85/0	85/0
U-KINTEX	43/0	43/0
U-LNCH HS	6/5	7/0
U-MICROWT	36/0	35/0
U-MOLINAR	51/0	51/0
U-MRRYDOW	358/0	360/0
U-PROP TS	3/6	3/6
U-SAC INT	116/0	117/0
U-SELECTV	18/4	18/0
U-STH BUS	359/0	360/0
U-STNOHO	267/0	268/0
U-T.V.AH	182/0	157/0
U-TUBULAR	147/0	146/0
U-UTR GRP	204/0	203/0
U-WAYNE K	60/0	60/0
U-WMS LEI	67/0	67/0
U-WYKO GP	76/0	76/0
U.E.I.	411/0	412/0
UK PAPER	165/0	166/0
ULSTER TV	81/0	80/0
UNDERWOOD	115/0	117/0
UNION DIS	565/0	563/0
UNION SCIEN	212/0	210/0
VALUENEC	54/0	54/0
VAUK GRP	649/0	650/0
VERSON	123/0	123/0
VE INSTHT	317/0	315/0
VICKERS	164/0	164/0

International Bond Highlights

London — Mitsubishi Metal Corp is issuing a 150 mln dir equity warrant Eurobond due Aug 17, 1993 with an indicated coupon of 4-1/4 pct and par pricing, lead manager Yamachi International (Europe) Ltd said. (RTUD 1403)

Tokyo — Seibu Credit Co Ltd will issue 100 mln dls of bonds with warrants through public placement with Nomura International Ltd as lead manager, the company said. It will also raise 100 mln Swiss francs in convertible bonds through private placement with Credit Suisse and Nomura Bank (Switzerland) Ltd as co-lead manager. (RTVB 0751, RTVQ 0924, RTWM 1008)

London — Austria's Genossenschaftliche Zentralbank AG is issuing a 100 mln ECU Eurobond due July 25, 1993, paying eight pct and priced at 101-7/8 pct, lead manager Morgan Stanley International said. (RTTV 1330)

London — Pirelli Financial Services Co NV is issuing a 75 mln ECU Eurobond due July 25, 1993 carrying a coupon of eight pct and priced at 101-3/4 pct, said UBS Securities Ltd as lead manager. (RTTT 1316)

Interbank Rates

CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN 9-1/2 3/8	10-5/8 9/16	11 10-7/8
FT 4-5/55	4-85/95	5-00/10
PAR 7-1/16 1/8	7-1/16 3/16	7-3/8 1/2
ZUR 1-5/8 1-7/8	4-1/4 1/4	4-1/4 1/4
BRE 7-20	3-5/8 3-7/8	7-00 1/4
ROM 10-10-1/2	10-7/16 11-3/8	11 11-1/2
AMS 4-5/8 4-3/4	4-13/16 4-15/16	5-0/0 5-1/8
TOK 3-6875 7500	4-0000 0625	4-0625 1250
ECU 6.50 6.87	6.87 7.00	7.25 7.37

Interest Rates

FOLLOWING are the average K/D interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait yesterday.

Period	Offered	Bid
1 month	5-3/8	5-3/4
3 months	5-13/16	6-1/4
6 months	6	6-7/16
1 year	6-1/8	6-9/16

BOMBAY

	PR. CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	61.50	61	62	MICO	595	59	607.0
				GNFC	48.50	47.50	49	MUKAND	87	86	87.50
ACC	226.50	230	231	GRASIM	908	109.50	110	NOCIL	450	465	460.00
ASIA PAINT	156.25	156.25	160	BSPC	133.50	138	138	ORKEY	30	30	30.50
BAJAJ AUTO	241.25	245	246.25	HIND LEVER	69.50	69.50	69	PEICO	29.50	29	30
BAR. RAYON	252	255	257.50	HINDALCO	86.50	87	88	PFFIZER	62	62	63
BOM. DYING	109.50	117	117	HINDCOBA	78	80	81.25	PRI. AUTO	31	33.50	34.50
BR. BOND	86.25	85	86	HINDOTRAN	22.75	22.50	22.50	RAYMOND	49.50	48	49
BSE INDEX	576.64	576.64	576.64	IND ORG	24.50	27	26.50	RELIANCE	209	214	214.50
CENTURYSPG	880	885	890	INDORAYON	73.50	74	74.50	SIEMENS	70	70	72
COLGATE	212.50	215	215	INDROL	162.50	166.25	168.25	SPIC	49	49.50	53.50
DEEPKAPET	34	36	37	ITC	45	45	46	STONILLS	252	255	257.50
EL. HOTEL	49.50	48	50	JYKSHYNT	64	64	64.75	TATA PUR	257.50	270	270
ESKAYTE	152.50	118.75	115	L AND T	98	98	99.50	TATACHEN	70.50	71	72
ESSAR	90.50	19.50	20.75	MANINDRA	58.50	58.50	59.50	TELED	655	657.50	665
GAR. POLY	80	80.50	81	MASTERSHR	10.50	10.25	10.50	TISRO	790	800	808.75
GE. SHIP	29.50	30	31.12	MATHER PL	49	49	51	VOLTAS	292.50	290	295

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST PR-CLSE
AEG	201.3
ALLIANZ VR	1470.0
BADENWERK	182.0
BAF	256.7
BAYER	292.2
BAYER HYP	343.0
BAYER VER	333.0
BBC	306.0
BHF	406.5
BHW	519.0
COMMERZBANK	231.0
CONTI GUM	257.1
DAIER BEH	705.0
DEUTSCHE B	468.8
DIL	361.0
DRESDNER B	258.5
DT BARCKHOFF	168.2
FAZ-INDEX	162.8
FELDMUEHLE	264.0
GLÖSCHMIDT	293.5
HARPEKST	426.0
HOECHST AG	272.3
KOESCH	142.9
NORTEN	187.0
RUSSEL HLD	416.5
KALI SALZ	160.5
KARSTADT	419.0
KAUFHOFF	357.0
KLOECK R	127.8
KLOECK W	0
LINDE	668.0
LUFTHANSA	147.0
NAN	195.0
MANNESMAN	156.3
MERCEDES	569.0
NETALLGES	313.0
NIXDORF PF	442.4
NORSK HYD	59.20
PHILIP KON	593.5
PORSCH	535.0
PREUSSAG	184.0
PIA	213.0
RHEINMETAL	295.0
RUE	225.5
RUE P	212.2
SALAMANDER	261.0
SCHERING	513.0
SEL	302.9
SIEMENS	423.0
THYSSEN	144.6
VARTA	288.0
VEBA	250.3
VEW	159.2
VOLKSWAGEN	258.7

HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST PR-CLSE
C H TUNNEL	15.70
CHEUNG K	8.00
CHINA GAS	17.40
CHINA L-P	17.30
CHINA MTR	23.10
COSMO PROP	0
EVERED IND	53
FAR EAST C	84
H C DEVELOP	9.90
H S INDEX	97.54
HANG LUNG	5.45
HANG SENG	30.25
HAW PAR BR	0
HK ELEC CO	7.50
HK KOWLOON	8.20
HK LAND CO	8.20
HK SHAN BK	0
HK SHAN HT	5.00
HK TELE CO	6.75
HUTCH UNAM	9.50
IND PAC	13.00
JARDINE M	13.30
KOMLOON H	9.65
NEW WORLD	11.80
PAUL Y CON	2.95
REALTY DEV	0
S H K CO	2.33
S H K PROP	11.40
SINE DARBY	1.95
STELUX MFG	2.68
SWIRE PAC	18.90
T V B CO	13.50
TAI CHEUNG	3.90
UNION BANK	1.64
WOCK HAD	0
WOCK HART	0
WORLD INTL	3.68

TOKYO

STOCK	LAST PR-CLSE
AJINOMOTO	2960
AKAI ELEC	680
AKI	958
ASAHI GAS	1980
ASAHI OPT	760
BANK TOKYO	1550
BRIDGESTON	1340
CANON	1380
CASTO COMP	1300
CHUBAI MFG	0
CITIZEN W	859
D-ICHI KAN	2940
DAI NIP K	806
DAI NIP PT	2510
DAI NIP SC	1160
DAI NIP TO	660
DAICEL	920
DAIWA R	1730
DAIWA SEC	2240
DAIWA SEC	918
EISAI	1960
FUJITSU	1800
FUJITSU BANK	3000
FUJITSU PHOTO	3730
FUJITSU SA	740
FUJITSU CP	740
HITACHI	1850
KANDA MOT	2210
ISATAN	1950
ITO YOKADO	4070
JAP SYN R	1140
JAP AIR	13600
JAPAN RET	625
KAJIMA	1350
KANSAI EL	3100
KAO SOAP	1740
KAWASAKI H	660
KAWASAKI S	695
KIRIN BEV	1900
KOMATSU	785
KUBOTA LTD	713
KYOCERA	5370
MAKITA EL	1720
MARUI	2960
MATSUDA EI	2690
MATSUDA EL	0
MEIJI SEIK	940
MITSUBI CP	1140
MITSUBI EL	1010
MITSUBI EST	2270
MITSUBI HYY	925
MITSUBI CO	905
MITSUBISHI	1700
MITSUBISHI	1220
NICHICON	1390
NINON CHMT	820
NIKKO SEC	1900
NIP ELEC	2250
NIP KOKKAN	660
NIP OIL	1100
NIP YUSEN	783
NIS MOTOR	1320
NOMURA SEC	3700
OHBA CO	940
OLYMPUS	1160
PEITIA OCM	877
PIONEER	3190
REKONAN	941
RICOH	1350
SANJO	1900
SANKYO	850
SANYO ELEC	2250
SEIYU ST	1590
SEKISUI PB	1320
SHARP	1750
SHISEIDO	1750
SONY	5470
SUNITOMO	1060
TAISEI	881
TAISHO MNR	1040
TAKEDA CH	2540
TEIJIN	808
TKO NEW IX	163.14
TOKIO MNR	1850
TOKYO ELEC	1250
TOKYO GAS	1140
TOKYO PWR	5550
TORAY IND	888
TOSHIBA EL	1170
TOTO	2000
TOYO KOGYO	755
TOYOTA MOT	2850
YAMAHA	1410
YANAIATCHI	1840
YAMAMOTO	3740
YANAZAKI	1420

Tokyo Stock Market Report

TOKYO STOCKS CLOSE SHARPLY HIGHER
TOKYO, JULY 20, REUTER - SHARE PRICES CLOSED SHARPLY HIGHER AFTER AFTERNOON BUYING CENTERED ON RELATIVELY MORE EXPENSIVE BLUE-CHIP AUTO, ELECTRICAL AND PRECISION INSTRUMENT ISSUES, BROKERS SAID.

"PEOPLE SENSED THE MARKET WAS READY TO BOUNCE BACK. BLUE CHIPS HAVE A BIG INFLUENCE ON THE INDEX SO THEY CAN MAKE THINGS LOOK GOOD," ONE BROKER SAID.

THE NIKKEI INDEX WAS UP 404.95 POINTS, OR 1.50 PCT, TO 27,553.98. IT FELL 513.09 POINTS ON TUESDAY IN THE YEAR'S BIGGEST PLUNGE. RISES LED FALLS 1.1 TO ONE IN MODERATE TURNOVER OF 1.3 BILLION SHARES AGAINST 1.2 BILLION ON TUESDAY.

THE NIKKEI INDEX CLOSED ONLY SLIGHTLY OFF THE DAY'S HIGH OF 27,571.66, AFTER A LOW OF 27,113.37 IN MID-MORNING TRADE.

ELECTRICAL, SECURITY HOUSE, COMMUNICATIONS, PRECISION INSTRUMENT, AUTO, PHARMACEUTICAL, CREDIT/LEASE, BANK, GLASS/CEMENT AND SOME MANUFACTURING SHARES LED THE RISE.

SHIPBUILDING, ROLLING STOCK, MINING, SHIPPING, RAILWAY/BUS AND STEEL STOCK FELL.

THE AFTERNOON BUYING SENTIMENT IN FAVOR OF BLUE-CHIP BUYING MAY BE SHORT-TERM, WITH INVESTORS STILL CONCERNED OVER THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR AND ITS EFFECT ON OIL PRICES, INFLATION AND INTEREST RATES, BROKERS SAID.

OIL PRICES JUMPED ON MONDAY ON NEWS THAT IRAN ACCEPTED A U.N. CEASEFIRE PROPOSAL TO END ITS EIGHT-YEAR WAR WITH IRAQ, BUT THEN RETREATED LATE ON TUESDAY ON REPORTS OF RENEWED FIGHTING BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

INVESTORS ARE WORRIED ABOUT HIGHER OIL PRICES WHICH COULD SPUR INFLATION IN JAPAN, WHICH IMPORTS MOST OF ITS OIL. THIS COULD PROMPT MONETARY AUTHORITIES TO RAISE INTEREST RATES, MAKING FIXED INTEREST INSTRUMENTS MORE ATTRACTIVE THAN EQUITIES AND DAMPENING CORPORATE ACTIVITY.

SHARE PRICES FELL YESTERDAY ON HIGHER OIL PRICES, BUT WERE UP IN INITIAL TRADE TODAY ON CHEAPER OIL AND A WEAKER DOLLAR.

Hong Kong Market Report

HONG KONG, JULY 20, REUTER - STOCKS RECOVERED THEIR INITIAL LOSSES TO CLOSE FIRMER ON BARGAIN-HUNTING BY SPECULATORS AND DAY-JOBBERS, BROKERS SAID.

THE HANG SENG INDEX FINISHED 19.74 POINTS HIGHER AT 2,697.54 WHILE THE BROADER BASKET HONG KONG INDEX ROSE 13.51 TO 1,785.66. TURNOVER WAS A LOW 765.40 MLN H.K. DLRS, COMPARED WITH 962.91 MLN ON TUESDAY.

BROKERS SAID THE MARKET LACKED FRESH FACTORS AND WAS MAINLY GUIDED BY OVERSEAS CENTRES. "THE RECOVERY OF TOKYO AFTER YESTERDAY'S MORE THAN 500 POINT DROP IS DEFINITELY A HELP," SAID ONE BROKER AT AN INTERNATIONAL FIRM.

AMMAN

	OPNG	CLSG	JOR NATIONAL BANK	3.10	3.12
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY			JOR PAPER CARDBOARD		
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.			JOR PHOSPHATE MINS		
ARAB BANK			JOR PIPES MANUFAC		
ARAB CHEMICAL DTER	3.96	3.95	JOR PRESS/PUBLIS.	2.00	2.05
ARAB FINANCE CORP.			JOR PRINTING/PACK.	4.00	4.05
ARAB INSURANCE			JOR ROCK WOOL IND.		
ARAB INT.-INV/TRADE	0.98	0.98	JOR SECURIT CORP		
ARAB INT.-UNION INS	0.94	0.90	JOR SELPHO CHEM.		
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	0.53	0.58	JOR WOOD INDUSTRY		
ARAB JOR/INVEST/BK			JOR WORSTED MLL		
ARAB PAPER CO/IND	0.31	0.31	JOR. KUWAIT AGR	1.00	1.00
ARAB PHARMA. MANF.			JOR. PETROLEUM REF		
ARAB PHARMA/CHEM	0.76	0.75	JOR. FRENCH INS.	5.20	5.30
ARAB POTASH CO.	---	---	JOR. INV. FIN. CORP.		
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65	1.65	JORDANIAN GULF REAL		
BANK OF JORDAN			JORDAN DAIY		
BELGIUM INSURANCE	1.00	0.95	JORDANIAN GULF BANK	1.24	1.24
CAIRO ARABIAN BANK	28.50	28.50	JORDANIAN GULF INS.	0.94	0.95
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	0.46	0.44	JORDANIAN INSURANCE	13.85	13.90
DAR ALDAMA DV/INV.			JORDAN ISLAMIC BNK		
DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.			JORDAN KUMAIT BANK		
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR			JORDAN TANNING	2.01	2.00
GARAGE OWNERS OFF	3.65	3.55	LIVESTOCK/POULTRY	0.71	0.72
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39	2.63	MACH/ENG/RENT/MAIN		
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.25	1.25	MAS INDUSTRIES	0.69	0.73
GENERAL MINING.	1.31	1.31	MIDDLE EAST HOTEL	0.60	0.40
HIMMEN MINERALS ~	0.75	0.75	MIDDLE EAST INS	60.00	60.00
HOLY LAND INS.	1.25	1.25	MINERALS RESEARCH	0.60	0.55
IND./MATCH JEMCO			NAT. FIN. INVEST CO	1.80	1.80
INDSTR. DEVLPT/BNK	1.59	1.53	NAT./CABLE/ALTR/MF		
INDSTR./COM/AGR.			NATIONAL ABILA INS	1.23	1.23
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.75	0.75	NATIONAL INDUSTRY		
INTERCOM/INV			NATIONAL PORTFOLIO		
IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.85	0.86	ORIENTAL STEEL		
ISLAMIH INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64	ORIENT DRY BATTERY	0.25	0.28
INTERMED/PETRI/CH			PETRA BANK	1.92	1.97
J.-TOUR-SP COMPLEX	0.79	0.80	PETRA JOR. INS.	0.35	0.35
JERUSALEM INS.	1.26	1.29	PHILADELPHIA INS.	0.82	0.81
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET			RAFIA INDUSTRIAL	0.80	0.80
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR	1.20	1.22	REAL ESTATE INV.		
JOR EAGLE INS.	25.01	25.05	SHIPPING LINES	0.87	0.87
JOR ELECTRIC POWER			THE HOUSING BANK	1.85	1.86
JOR FINANCE HOUSE			UNITED INSURANCE		
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY			UNIVERSAL CHEM. IND	1.46	1.51
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.50	2.30	UNIVERSAL INS.	1.19	1.23
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	1.55	1.56	WOOLEN INDUSTRIES	0.70	0.71
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20	YARMOUK INSURANCE	1.10	1.08

PHILIPPINES MAKATI

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR	BC-A	73.00	74.00	73.50
STOCK BUY				
SELL				
AC-A	9.40	9.50	9.40	9.48
ANS	2.60	2.65	2.60	2.68
FER-A	2.60	2.65	2.55	2.58
GLO	34.50	35.00	34.50	34.50
PLDT	208.00	209.00	204.00	204.00
KPSI-A	2.24	2.28	2.28	2.28

Kuwait stock trading soars

SHARE trading on Kuwait's stock exchange, the busiest in the Gulf, has soared to record highs since Iran on Monday announced its acceptance of a UN order for a ceasefire with Iraq.

Investors hope an end to the eight-year-old war next door will create a new economic boom as Kuwaiti traders and contractors help Iran and Iraq rebuild.

"Tuesday was just fantastic," said Kuwaiti economist Jasssem Al Saadoun, general manager of Al Shall Economic Consultants.

Frenzy
In what officials called an unprecedented buying frenzy, trading volume on the official and parallel markets on Tuesday hit 85 million shares — the highest one-day total ever and 10 million more than the total all last week.

The value of deals exceeded KD20 million (\$71 million) — the most in a single day since March 1987.

Both volume and value began to slip back yesterday amid doubts a ceasefire could hold, but Saadoun expected buoyant trading for some time.

Share prices have jumped by up to 14 per cent, with those of the country's largest bank, National Bank of Kuwait, hitting 1,030 diars (\$3.64) yesterday from 900 diars (\$3.18) on Saturday. Bank shares are traditionally the most widely traded.

Kuwait's economy is slowly emerging from a recession caused by falling oil prices, the 1982 crash of the unofficial Souk Al Manakah stock market and the war, which devastated a once-lucrative re-export trade with Iran and Iraq.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, July 20. (Reuters): Share prices closed lower for the second day running, though they recovered some of their early losses in afternoon trading. The All Ordinaries fell 2.4 to 1,621.3.

TOKYO: Share prices closed sharply higher after afternoon buying centred on relatively expensive blue-chip stocks. The Nikkei index rose 404.95 to 27,553.98.

HONG KONG: Stocks recovered initial losses to close firmer on bargain-hunting by speculators. The Hang Seng index rose 19.74 to 2,697.54.

SINGAPORE: Prices closed higher on late buying interest spurred by a rise in the Tokyo market. The Straits Times industrial index rose 9.32 points to 1,145.54.

BOMBAY: Trading came to a halt after brokers staff staged a go-slow in protest at delays on wage agreements. The Stock Exchange authorities said the market was officially closed for accounting purposes.

FRANKFURT: Shares recovered from a weak low-volume start to end slightly ahead as foreign investors took advantage of the lower prices. The Dax 30-share index rose 4.52 points to close at 1,174.62.

ZURICH: Prices closed firm in quiet trade with demand focused on insurance and some chemical shares backed by good company news. The All-Share Swiss index rose 3.2 to 887.3.

PARIS: French shares ended firmer, reversing the morning's lower trend in a late rally.

LONDON: Apparently struggling off gloomier than expected currency data, the market advanced to stand around the day's highs. At 1430 GMT, the FTSE-100 index was up 16.6 at 1,861.4.

Dollar steadies, gold and silver jump

LONDON, July 20. (AP): The US dollar held steady in afternoon trading today after falling earlier when the West German central bank intervened to sell dollars, dealers said.

Gold prices jumped more than \$8 an ounce in Zurich and more than \$7 an ounce in London. Silver prices also surged higher.

A second intervention by the West German central bank to sell dollars at mid-afternoon had little effect, when no other central banks appeared to join in, dealers in Frankfurt said.

"As soon as the dollar comes up, the central banks are there," a trader in Frankfurt commented on the West German intervention.

Dealers
The West German central bank has intervened regularly on the open market in recent weeks, dealers said.

In Tokyo, where trading ends before Europe's business day begins, the dollar fell 0.80 yen to a closing 133.05 yen. Later in London, it was quoted at 133.25 yen. In London, the British pound

rose to \$1.7085 from \$1.6937 late yesterday.

Other dollar rates late today, compared with late yesterday:

— 1.8520 West German marks, down from 1.8640

— 1.5360 Swiss francs, down from 1.5475

— 6.2455 French francs, down from 6.2845

— 2.0910 Dutch guilders, down from 2.1010

— 1.371.50 Italian lire, down from 1.383.60

— 1.1959 Canadian dollars, down from 1.2011

In Zurich, speculative buying because of a miners' strike in Peru caused a brisk rally in the price of silver today but dealers said they did not expect it to go as high as the \$10 in ounce touched last year.

Silver was changing hands as high as \$7.80 today, up around 60 cents from yesterday. It helped pull gold higher, too.

"Fundamentally, there is no justification for prices to be this high, with or without Peru," a trader for a major Swiss bank said.

"It is a sick metal. There is far too much silver in this world, and the surplus is still there. People are sitting on huge speculative hordes."

But he added "There are a few big players, especially the fund managers, who are not reluctant to try to drive prices higher."

Peru has also apparently used futures contracts to hedge against its lost silver production.

And traders cited rumours that central banks may be heading to the rally. The Soviet Union, in particular, was said to be buying silver and selling gold, although no dealer would directly confirm this.

Freddy Gubler, chief metals trader at Citicorp Investment Bank in Zurich, said prices have been climbing without benefit of big investor purchases.

"We have not been seeing the private investors who buy metals as an inflationary hedge," he said. "The masses are not there, and if they come in, prices will leap."

Gubler said silver could reach \$8.50 in the next few weeks if

investors' fears of inflation do have this effect.

"Everybody is talking about the fear of inflation, but nobody is reaching to it," he said.

Bullion dealers say that gold — now just under \$450 an ounce, after 500 last December and 850 at its 1980 peak — might also advance if big buying on fears of inflation set in.

Meanwhile, share prices rebounded sharply today on the Tokyo Stock Exchange with the main index making its largest one-day gain of the year, while the US dollar slipped for the second consecutive day against the Japanese yen.

The Nikkei stock average of 225 selected issues, which took its biggest plunge of the year 513.09 points — yesterday, regained 404.95 points, or 1.49 per cent, to close today at 27,553.98.

It was the largest single-day gain for the Nikkei, the most widely followed barometer of the exchange. Since Nov. 13, 1987, when the index jumped 901.75 points.

Merchants thrive in Lebanon's divided city

BEIRUT, July 20. (Reuters): Almost oblivious to the conflict and destruction that surrounds them, the merchants of Beirut go about their business with a vigour undimmed by 13 years of civil war.

From stores selling fashionable clothes and imported food to small workshops making furniture and plastics, commerce is thriving — in sharp contrast to the burdens of daily life suffered by the majority of people.

For them, power cuts, water shortages and low wages add to the misery of car bombs, sniping and militia warfare that have wreaked a terrible toll on families and businesses.

Resilience
"I am always amazed at the resilience of the private sector," said a Western diplomat. "They always seem to bounce back."

"Some of the light industrial products like textiles and furniture do good export business because of the weakness of the

Lebanese pound," he said. A year ago 138 Lebanese pounds would buy a dollar, today the dollar costs 348 pounds.

The depressed value of the pound makes Lebanese exports attractively cheap to foreign buyers. But many Lebanese have seen minimum wages eroded to the equivalent of only \$45 a month — the price of a meal for two in a good restaurant.

Junior bank clerks are slightly better off — after buying their meal for two they would still have 5,000 pounds (about \$15) for the rest of the month out of their 20,000 pounds (\$60) salary.

Many goods and services are simply beyond the reach of the masses, say social workers.

And many of the million or so people who live in the Christian enclave around East Beirut struggle to keep up middle class appearances — some even selling furniture to make ends meet.

But for many of Beirut's busi-

nessmen, despite the odd artillery shell or two that whistles overhead, business is booming.

On the Christian side of the green line battlefield, in a derelict commercial block in the former hub of the city, a two-man woodworking business illustrates the determination to survive and succeed.

"It has been quiet for more than a year now. Occasionally a shell or two comes over but we just keep working," says former militia fighter Rene Badawi, holding a half-finished table with his bullet-scarred arm.

Furniture
He and colleague George Khoury, who sell their kitchen units and furniture to big stores, agreed: "business is good."

For Lebanese with little money to spend Beirut can be a frustrating place to live, with long delays in repairs to public utilities — even getting water on tap can be a problem.

The chaotic telephone system

is just another aggravation for many, but for rich businessmen with \$50,000 to spend, a private satellite-linked international line is instantly available.

"For us it's bad. There are constant, long power cuts, you wait two days to have a shower, two days to get someone on the phone," said Nada, 23, a teacher. "But if you are rich you have a water tank, a generator. No problem," she said.

Business
The laissez-faire attitude to business for which Beirut was known before the war is undiminished but some traders are under fire for taking advantage of the lack of controls.

A leading weekly, *An Nahar* Arab and International, accused some food retailers of passing off bad food at high prices. "It's import stocks of rotten or expired foodstuffs and change the expiry date before releasing them onto the market," it said on July 16.

Riyal rates set to rise even further

Saudi banks show sharp recovery

BAHRAIN, July 20. (Reuters): Saudi banks reporting their half-year results have shown a dramatic turn-around after long years of declining earnings in the post-oil-boom period.

Of the seven joint-venture banks in the kingdom to release figures so far, all have made strong improvements in profitability, and bankers say the outlook for most banks in the coming year is bright.

"All the majors are really soaring," said a top banker in the kingdom. "The banks have identified their important issues and got a hold of them."

Profitable

During the oil boom, Saudi banks ranked among the most profitable in the world. After the peak year of 1982 profits began a long slide as government oil revenues plunged.

Banks say they have tackled much of their mountain of bad loans to the private sector, taken an axe to overhead costs and received a shot in the arm from rising interest rates.

Leading the pack is Saudi Arabian Bank (SAMB) — owned 40 per cent by Citibank NA — whose six months net profit more than tripled to 121.3 million riyals (\$32 million).

Arab National Bank, Al Bank Al Saudi Al Hollandi, Al Bank Al Saudi Al Fransi and Saudi Investment Bank (SAIB) also

showed healthy increases, while United Saudi Commercial Bank reduced a 12.1 million riyal (\$3.2 million) loss in the first six months of 1987 to one of 1.4 million riyals (\$373 million).

A seventh, Saudi British Bank, published only its pre-provision profit, which went up to 27.1 million riyals (\$7 million) from 6.3 million riyals (\$1.7 million).

Rates
Steadily rising dollar interest rates have been a major factor in the improvement, said bankers.

Partly due to a lack of banking sophistication among the public and because many people refuse to accept interest, banned in Islamic law, 40 per cent of deposits in Saudi banks are interest-free.

In Saudi Arabia, much money is sent home as remittances by an army of foreign workers, and banks get an interest-free float as long as two months on the funds, bankers said.

The result is that when interest rates rise, so do profit margins. Bankers say rial rates look set to rise even further following the introduction in June by the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA) of a twice monthly, 1.5 billion riyal (\$400 million) government bond issue.

The purpose of the bonds, restricted to Saudi institutions and commercial banks, is to help finance a 35.9 billion riyal (\$9.6

billion) budget deficit expected by the government for 1988.

Since the bonds were first offered, one-year rial interbank deposit rates have risen by two percentage points to around 8-3/4 per cent.

Bonds
Because the 30 billion riyals (\$8 billion) expected to be raised by the bonds this year are equal to around a quarter of the banks' total deposits, bankers predict there will be a squeeze on rial funds by the end of the year, keeping interest rates high.

SAMA may well be forced to allow foreign banks to take part in bonds purchases later on, said a banker.

Bankers say they are finally getting a grip on the long-standing problem of private sector debt. Much of the debt has now been covered by provisions, and some progress has been made in efforts to bring errant borrowers to court.

A special committee was created by SAMA last October to hear disputes outside the country's traditional Islamic courts, viewed by bankers as slow and often hostile to interest-charging Western-style banks.

But bankers say that while the new committee has been fast and professional, it has had little effect in actually getting its judgments enforced once they are made.

Technology transfer

RIYADH, July 20. (OPECNA): The Saudi National Industrialisation Company is keen on the transfer of advanced technology from industrialised countries to the kingdom, according to the company's annual report.

The report released here said the company was now executing a number of projects that would contribute to the strengthening of the kingdom's industrial base.

These projects will include plants for glass manufacturing, wire, batteries, furniture and titanium dioxide.

The report added that the company had also contributed to the establishment of a number of national companies, including those for plastics, paper products and medical requirements manufacturing.

Gas find

JAKARTA, July 20. (OPECNA): Pertamina, the Indonesian state oil company, struck gas in West Java following the completion of a wildcat well code-named "Cicau-P-1" according to an official announcement.

The well, located in the Krawang district, about 80 km southeast of here, produced around 23.65 million cu ft of gas during test trials.

Gas was struck when drillings reached a depth of 2,701 metres.

Iran, Iraq likely to boost oil output

BAHRAIN, July 20. (Reuters): Both Iran and Iraq are likely to boost oil output dramatically once the eight-year-old Gulf conflict is over in a bid to finance the rebuilding of their shattered economies, oil sources in the Gulf said today.

They said a ceasefire between the two warring OPEC members was unlikely to bring greater unity within the organisation or boost oil prices — even though this was predicted by UAE Oil Minister Mana Said Al Otaiba today.

The virtual consensus among oil sources within the region seemed to fly in the face of early forecasts made by a majority of oil experts elsewhere that OPEC will be able to cut back production and shore up flagging prices after a ceasefire.

The Gulf sources maintained that eight years of war, mutual suspicions and continuing rivalry between Iran and Iraq would not end with a ceasefire in the Gulf.

Conflict
The conflict had also set Iran

against Iraq alone, but against powerful neighbours Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

It has seriously soured Iran's relations with Arab partners in OPEC and its sudden ceasefire agreement was unlikely to bring an early easing in their relations within OPEC, they added.

"It will be very difficult for both countries to retreat to their OPEC quotas because they will need every penny they can get their hands on to restore their economies," Bahrain oil official Jalil Samahiji told Reuters.

Iraq has been excluded from OPEC's quota system for the past six months because it insists on production parity with Iran.

Prices
The official emirates news agency WAM quoted Otaiba today as saying a ceasefire would strengthen OPEC and bring world oil prices to the group's official benchmark price of \$18 a barrel.

But oil industry sources in the region saw his statement as yet another attempt to influence a jittery market.

"Otaiba is taking advantage of the situation and trying to help stabilise the market," one senior source said.

Spot oil prices jumped almost one dollar on Monday following news of Iran's acceptance of a UN ceasefire call.

Prices have since shed up to half those gains after reports of fresh air attacks by both Gulf belligerents and a fresh ground offensive by Baghdad.

Rise
Some oil analysts in London said today the initial price rise was a sharp knee-jerk reaction which was unlikely to be sustained.

"Speculation that a ceasefire will lead to greater cohesion and discipline within OPEC is quite

unfounded and disregards the politics of OPEC, the Middle East and Iraq and Iran in particular," an analyst at Kiteal and Aitken and Co. said.

"If anything we can expect even deeper differences within OPEC's ranks to emerge."

With many of its refineries and oil facilities severely damaged from Iraqi bombing raids, oil industry sources in the Gulf estimate Iran is pumping around 2.2 million barrels per day (bpd), just under its OPEC ceiling of 2.369 million.

They predicted that if Iraq's frequent warplane attacks on Tehran's fleet of shuttle tankers were to stop, Iran could probably step up its crude oil exports by around 25 per cent.

Boost
Iraq could also boost its current 2.6 million bpd output by re-opening shut oil terminals and jetties along the Gulf coast, but it would take months or years before repairs were completed, the sources added.

"The first thing both countries will do after a ceasefire is try and get their hands on foreign money — which they can only do through selling oil," one oil trader said.

"Unless all other OPEC countries really follow their quotas to the last barrel — and I don't see this coming — I don't see any significant rise in prices which would allow Iran and Iraq increased revenues within their quotas," he added.

One Arab oil official said there was a chance Iraq might be drawn back into the OPEC quota fold if it received enough money to finance reconstruction in the form of loans or grants, both from the West and Arab states in the region.

Improved sentiment in stock markets

NEW DELHI, July 20. A smart recovery in equity values has been recorded in the principal stock exchanges in the past few days with larger institutional buying and bear covering on expectation of a revival in economic activity. The reports about widespread rainfall in many regions have given rise to hopes of a significant increase in agricultural production and an improvement in profitability of many agro-based industries, according to the daily Hindu.

The general sentiment in stock markets has brightened as the proceedings of the consultative committee of the Indian Finance Ministry have led to speculation about fresh incentives and bull operators have been active.

The indication by Indian Finance Minister S.B. Chavan that the question of tax concessions for buoying up the economy was under consideration of the government resulted in a fresh rise in prices for many popular scrips like Reliance Industries, Asian Paints, ACC, Sundram Fasteners, GNFC, GSFC, SPIC and others.

While it is not known whether Chavan would announce fresh incentives in Parliament later this month, the feeling has somehow gained ground that distributable profits of corporate assesses might be treated differently for tax purposes and new industries too might be helped to overcome the adverse effects of high capital costs and heavy burden of interest charges.

It remains to be seen whether the tax concessions will have the desired impact but the preparedness on the part of the government to pursue the policy of liberalisation of industrial licensing, promotion of industries in backward areas, amendments to the MRTP Act and other measures are considered helpful and the stock markets would be more active in the coming months as the financial institutions also have large investible funds.

The improvement in equity values, however, can be only selective as the textile, heavy chemical and cement industries are having special problems while the fertiliser units can hope to achieve better results only with a larger offtake of nitrogenous fertilisers, a higher output of phosphatic nutrients with liberal imports of phosphoric acid and

the ban on imports of urea and other nitrogenous fertilisers. The management of pharmaceutical units too are hoping that the new drug policy will be helpfully administered. The engineering industry may, of course, benefit by a larger export demand in some directions though the two wheeler units can improve their viability only if there can be brisker offtake of different types. The stock and capital markets may therefore remain active only if there are distinct signs of economic recovery.

JK Synthetics Limited has staged a smart recovery during the year ended March 31, 1988 with the turnover constituting a new record at Rs. 631.97 crores against Rs. 476.86 crores in 1987-88.

The operations were adversely affected in the latter year due to sluggish offtake of fertilisers, power shortage, reduced demand for synthetic fibres and other factors.

The gross profit, before depreciation and interest charges, has risen by 86.5 per cent to Rs. 86.31 crores from Rs. 46.28 crores formerly.

Call for tax relief on equity

(Continued from Page 9)

growth of the capital market, sound capital structure in companies was required in view of the emerging competitive environment. Tomorrow's companies, could not be allowed to enter the market on the basis of capital structures which found support in the past and equity would have to play a far more important role.

Need

Highlighting the need for proper pricing of new issues, Dr Manu Shroff, editor, *The Economic Times*, said that the present rules compelled even well established companies with good track records which sought to enter the primary market with the first-time equity issue to offer their shares at the lowest possible price.

Even when the issue was allowed at a premium, the emphasis was on keeping it low, rather than on obtaining the maximum premium possible. This syndrome needed to be broken and market forces allowed greater play in determining the level of premium and the pricing of new issues, he said.

The Indian corporate finance continued to remain traditional, with companies relying primarily on their own internal generation for financing fresh investment, thus leading to a "locked-in" capital market.

While this was welcome from the point of view of capital accumulation, it perpetuated the predominance of certain large groups and did not give much of a chance to new entrants.

Profits
Expressing himself in favour of a highly "mobile" capital market, Dr Shroff said that the profits, rather than being retained within the company, should be distributed to shareholders for reinvestment in other companies thus allowing greater mobility of capital.

Termining the Indian investor and enterprise as a "rent seeking creature" rather than a "risk tak-

ing one," he said that they were constantly only the look out for opportunities of making quick money, a task made easier by the present system of controls. Unless "rent seekers" could be converted into "risk takers" there was little scope for boosting the capital market, he said, adding that with the present interest rate structure, investors were looking for a fixed yield rather than investing in the capital market.

Dr Shroff did not agree with the view put forward by a number of participants at the seminar that a new instrument of non-voting shares should be introduced so as to enable companies to offer a large proportion of equity to the public without fear of losing control to corporate raiders in the future.

While at present a shareholder theoretically could exercise his control over the company, issuance of non-voting shares would deprive him of even that right, he felt.

He described the tendency of management wanting to retain control of their companies by issuing non-voting shares, as negating the concept of corporate democracy.

M.J. Pherwani, chairman Unit Trust of India (UTI), said that following the dramatic change in the outlook for growth in the current and following years, the capital market should be looked at in a much more positive manner. The worst is over, he said.

Emphasising the need for a healthy secondary market, he said that if the investor lost faith in this segment, he would not go in for investments in the primary market at all. In the emerging scenario, stock brokers would have to play a key role, and the broking community needed to take a long-term view of the market and not be guided merely by short-term considerations and gains. Merchant bankers and underwriters had also to play a greater degree of responsibility and commitment to the issues they promoted and need to have some financial stake in the project concerned.

Confidence
With a view to restoring the trust and confidence of the individual investors, he suggested that a system of registration or licensing of merchant bankers and brokers be introduced based on an acceptable criteria to help established credibility in the minds of the investors.

KD deposit rates steady

KUWAITI dinar deposit rates yesterday were mostly steady in a liquid market ahead of the five-day Eid Al Adha Muslim holiday that starts on Friday.

Dollar sales boosted liquidity already high from government salary payments as the US currency slipped on international markets.

Firmer

The Central Bank dinar exchange rate was unchanged from Tuesday at 0.28370/80 to the dollar with commercial bank spot quotes also steady at around 0.28375/80. The dinar hit an 11-month low on Monday of 0.28403/13.

Overnight and tomorrow and

spot-next funds were all offered at one per cent with no bids.

The one-week was quoted firmer early in the day at 5-1/2, 4-1/2 per cent from Tuesday's three per cent offers after Central Bank bids, but later slipped to 4-1/2, 3-1/2 per cent.

The Central Bank bid 5-1/4 per cent for three-week funds and 5-7/16 per cent for one-month money from July 27, roughly the same as on Tuesday.

Interbank business in the one-month was at 5-3/8 and 5-7/16 per cent, with early afternoon quotes at 5-1/2, 1-1/8 per cent for the one-month, 5-3/4, 1-1/2 per cent for the two-month, 5-3/4, 1-1/8 per cent for the three-month.

Dear Junior Readers,

WE all look forward to holidays because they are fun and give us the time to do the things we are normally too busy to do.

Some holidays, however, are more special because they celebrate an important time in history and so we should not just look upon those days as an opportunity to eat a lot, play games and to have time off school or work. Festivals, like this coming Eid, or Christmas, are also times to think more carefully about what we believe and to be more loving and kind to those around us.

Something else that should not be forgotten amid the festivities is that a new school term is not far off and you should be concentrating on your studies again! Try also to give your parents a helping hand at home to make their holiday more restful and enjoyable.

I hope you all have a very happy holiday and I will be with you again next Tuesday.

Auntie Jayne

Happy birthday

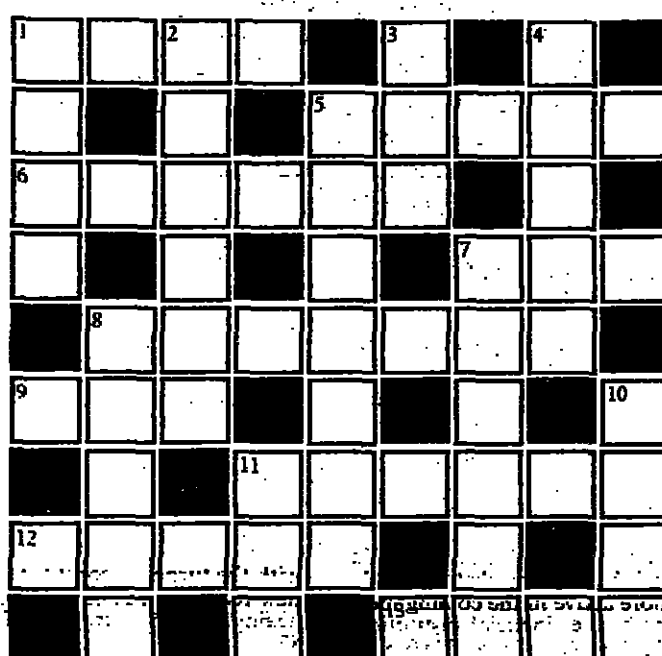
Clemmie Pereira celebrates her 8th birthday on 21st July. Best wishes, Clemmie, from Dad, Mum, brother Gavin and uncle Reggie.



Solution to 'Animal world quiz':
1. Lodge 2. Adder 3. Form 4. Leveret 5. Lair 6. Vixen

Solution to 'How many dominoes...':
8 dominoes missing, 35 spots (6-2; 5-3; 4-4; 3-6; 2-1; 2-0; 1-0; 0-0).

Crossword



- Across**
- 1 A flavouring used in cookery.
 - 5 He used a sling to kill Goliath.
 - 6 Rough and strong.
 - 7 Foot of an animal, such as a dog.
 - 8 Keep in check, as a horse with the reins.
 - 9 Took first prize.
 - 11 Men who keep law and order.
 - 12 Sweet substance found in beehives.
 - 13 Make into a pile.
- Down**
- 1 Foamy sea-water.
 - 2 Enclosed area of sea of a coral island.
 - 3 A young man.
 - 4 Last match of a series, perhaps.
 - 5 Damage beyond repair.
 - 7 Having good manners.
 - 8 Punctuation mark.
 - 10 Jump into the air.
 - 11 Piece of wood used as a fastener.

Solution on Tuesday

Part two

Rikki-tikki knew better than to waste time in staring. He jumped up in the air as high as he could go, and just under him whizzed by the head of Nagaina. Nag's wicked wife. She had crept up behind him as he was talking, to make an end of him; and he heard her savage hiss as the stroke missed. He came down almost across her back, and if he had been an old mongoose he would have known that then was the time to break her back with one bite; but he was afraid of the terrible lashing return-stroke of the cobra. He bit, indeed, but did not bite long enough, and he jumped clear of the whirling tail, leaving Nagaina torn and angry.

'Wicked, wicked Darzee!' said Nag, flashing up as high as he could reach towards the nest in the thornbush; but Darzee had built it out of reach of snakes, and it only swayed to and fro.

Rikki-tikki felt his eyes growing red and hot (when a mongoose's eyes grow red, he is angry), and he sat back on his tail and hind legs like a little kangaroo, and looked all round him, and chattered with rage. But Nag and Nagaina had disappeared into the grass. When a snake misses its stroke, it never says anything or gives any sign of what it means to do next.

Rikki-tikki-tavi

Rikki-tikki did not care to follow them, for he did not feel sure that he could manage two snakes at once. So he trotted off to the gravel path near the house, and sat down to think. It was a serious matter for him.

Rikki-tikki knew he was a young mongoose, and it made him all the more pleased to think that he had managed to escape a blow from behind. It gave him confidence in himself, and when Teddy came running down the path, Rikki-tikki was ready to be petted.

But just as Teddy was stooping, something flinched a little in the dust, and a tiny voice said: 'Be careful. I am death!' It was Karait, the dusty brown snake that lies for choice on the dusty earth; and his bite is as dangerous as the cobra's. But he is so small that nobody thinks of him, and so he does the more harm to people.

Rikki-tikki's eyes grew red again, and he danced up to Karait with the peculiar rocking, swaying motion that he had inherited from his family. It looks very funny, but it is so perfectly balanced a gait that you can fly off from it any angle you please; and in dealing with snakes this is an advantage.

Karait struck out. Rikki-

jumped sideways and tried to run in, but the wicked little dusty grey head lashed within a fraction of his shoulder, and he had to jump over the body, and the head followed his heels close.

Teddy shouted to the house: 'Oh, look here! Our mongoose is killing a

snake'; and Rikki-tikki heard a scream from Teddy's mother. His father ran out with a stick, but by the time he came up, Karait had lunged out once too far, and Rikki-tikki had sprung, jumped on the snake's back, dropped his head far between his forelegs, bitten as high up the



back as he could get hold, and rolled away. That bite paralysed Karait, and Rikki-tikki was just going to eat him up from the tail, after the custom of his family at dinner, when he remembered that a full meal makes a slow mongoose, and if he wanted all his strength and quickness ready, he must keep himself thin.

That night, at dinner, walking to and fro among the glasses on the table, he could have stuffed himself three times over with nice things; but he remembered Nag and Nagaina, and thought it was very pleasant to be patted and petted by Teddy's mother, and to sit on Teddy's shoulder, his eyes would get red from time to time, and he would go off into his long war-cry of 'Rikk-tikk-tikki-tikki-tchk!'

Teddy carried him off to bed, and insisted on Rikki-tikki sleeping under his chin. Rikki-tikki was too well bred to bite or scratch, but as soon as Teddy was asleep he went off for his nightly walk round the house, and in the dark he ran up against Chuchundra, the muskrat, creeping round by the wall. Chuchundra is a broken-hearted little beast. He whimpers and cheeps all the night, trying to make up his mind to run into the middle of the room, but he never gets there.

'Don't kill me,' said Chuchundra, almost

weeping. 'Rikki-tikki, don't kill me.'

'Do you think a snake-killer kills muskrats?' said Rikki-tikki scornfully.

'Those who kill snakes get killed by snakes,' said Chuchundra, more sorrowfully than ever. 'And how am I to be sure that Nag won't mistake me for you some dark night?'

'There's not the least danger,' said Rikki-tikki; 'but Nag is in the garden, and I know you don't go there.'

'My cousin Chua, the rat, told me —' said Chuchundra, and then he stopped.

'Told you what?'

'H'sh! Nag is everywhere. Rikki-tikki. You should have talked to Chua in the garden.'

'I didn't — so you must tell me. Quick. Chuchundra, or I'll bite you!'

'Chuchundra sat down and cried till the tears rolled off his whiskers. 'I am a very poor man,' he sobbed. 'I never had spirit enough to run out into the middle of the room. H'sh! I mustn't tell you anything. Can't you hear, Rikki-tikki?'

Rikki-tikki listened. The house was as still as still, but he thought he could just catch the faintest scratch-scratch in the world — a noise as faint as that of a wasp walking on a window-pane — the dry scratch of a snake's scales on brick work.

(To be continued on Tuesday)

Peach and coconut delight



Ingredients
500ml (1 pint) custard sauce
Small tin of peaches
1 dessertspoonful powdered gelatine
50g (2 oz) desiccated coconut
Few glace cherries

1. Make the custard following the basic recipe.
2. Drain peaches, placing the juice in a small basin.
3. Add the gelatine to the

fruit juice, place basin over a pan of hot water and stir until dissolved.
4. Add to hot custard and stir well.
5. Slice the peaches and add to the custard.
6. Pour into a wet mould.
7. Leave in cool place to set. Arrange a border of coconut around the base, decorate with cherries and any remaining fruit.

The why of animals

Why the tiger has a striped coat

The vertical yellow and black stripes of the tiger's fur act as a camouflage coat. It conceals the tiger among the bamboos and marsh vegetation of the places where it lives, particularly the jungles and lush undergrowth of Asia. This animal is a really blood thirsty one and it is not content, like the lion, to kill the victim which is going to supply it with a meal. Whenever it can it carries out a massacre among the herds and animals at the water-holes, just for the pleasure of seeing the blood flow.

If often happens that the female tiger, having given birth to five or six cubs, will eat the weak ones and leave only one or two, to which she will teach all the tricks of hunting.

When it grows old and loses its agility, the tiger becomes very dangerous and will even attack man.

Once in India and other parts of Asia tiger hunting was a common sport. These hunts were carried out on a large scale with hundreds of beaters and the hunters riding on tame elephants.

If it is captured young and raised in captivity the tiger can be tamed to some degree and an act with tigers is always a great attraction in the circus. However the tamer has always to be on the alert against any sudden out-

break of ferocity.

Why some animals hibernate

Let us take a look at the ground in the winter. When it is not covered with snow and ice it is hard and bare. There is not an insect to be seen and not a single fruit remains on the bare branches of the trees. Just imagine what a life of suffering it would be for many wild animals if nature had not arranged for them to fall asleep for several months.

And they go to sleep just at the right time. For some animals it is a matter of a heavy sleep with brief interruptions for the needs of survival: this is what happens to the squirrel, for example, which even at the height of winter finds time to munch the acorns which he stored away in the summer.

In some cases, it is much more than that: the rhythm of life slows down for such animals just as it does for plants. The temperature falls, the blood flows slowly, the breathing slows down and becomes almost imperceptible. This state of almost complete quiet is called hibernation.

During hibernation, of course, the animals consume the fats accumulated in the summer and when they awake again they have lost a good deal of weight.

Why the chameleon often changes colour

A close relative of the

lizard, the slow-worm and other reptiles, the chameleon is common in the whole of Africa and Madagascar, and is also found in some parts of Asia and Southern Europe, where there are about eighty species. It can grow to a length of 60 centimetres, but the most common variety does not exceed 30 centimetres in length.

The most striking thing about the chameleon is the speed with which it can change colour, from white to yellow, to black, to green, to brown.

It is generally thought that the chameleon changes colour in order to match its background, but in fact these changes are

due to the changes of light and temperature of its surroundings and the condition of the animal.

Indeed the chameleon has no need for camouflage because when it is out hunting it is able to deceive its prey by remaining perfectly still on a branch for hours. It is always sure of plenty to eat because of its sticky tongue which can dart out at its prey even to a distance of 10 centimetres.

The chameleon is well adapted for the life it leads in the trees. Its feet and tail are able to grasp a branch and hang there without difficulty when it is reaching out to capture some victim. The large prominent eyes can turn 180° and each one can move independently.

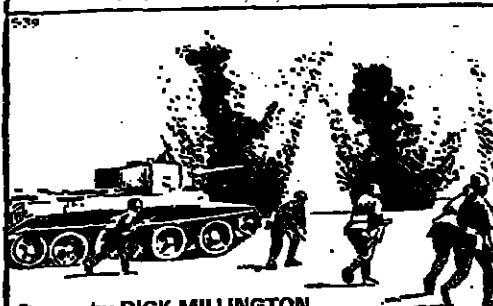


Factfile FROM THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS

MATERIALLY, THE MOST COSTLY WAR OF ALL TIME WAS WORLD WAR II (1939-1945). FAR TRANSCENDING THAT OF THE REST OF HISTORY'S WARS PUT TOGETHER, THE TOTAL COST TO THE SOVIET UNION WAS ESTIMATED AT 2,500,000,000,000 ROUBLES (£100,000 MILLION).

THE ESTIMATED COST OF THE WAR FOR THE USA WAS \$530,000 MILLION.

IN THE CASE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM THE COST OF £34,423 MILLION WAS OVER FIVE TIMES AS GREAT AS THAT OF WORLD WAR I (£7,000 MILLION).



FLOWERS

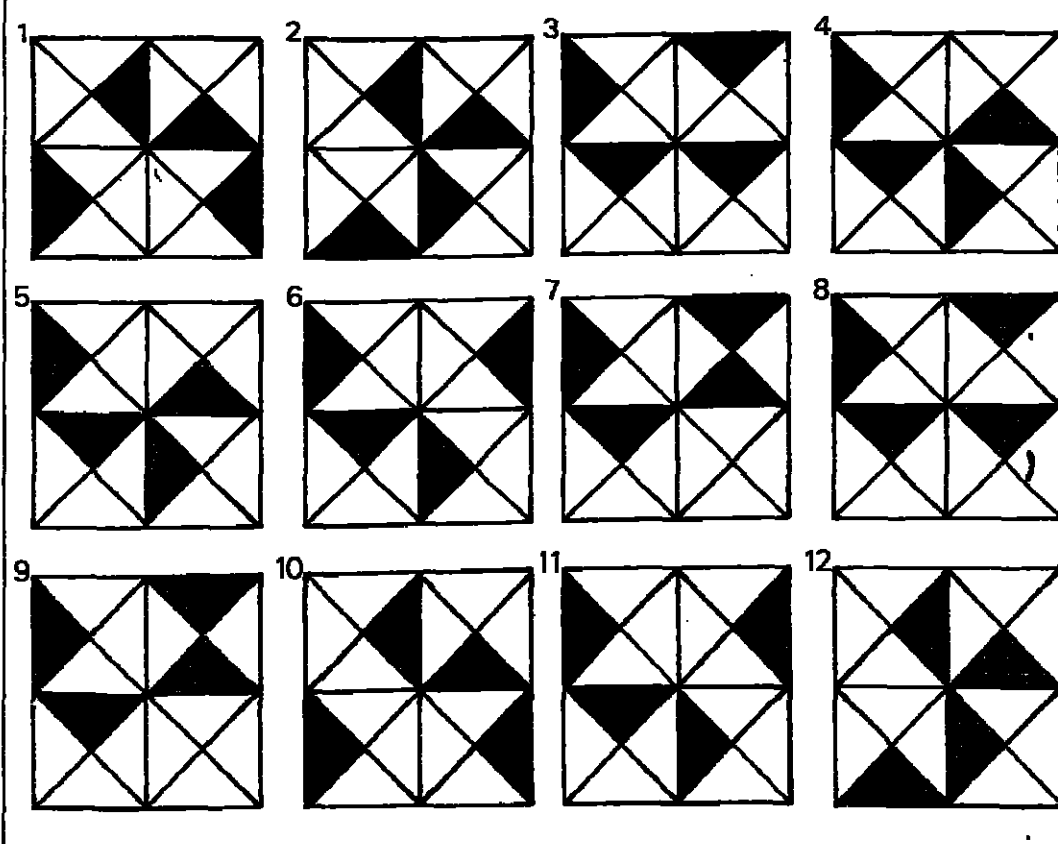
We can make thirty-two, three and four-letter words out of the word FLOWERS. How many can you make? Try not to use people's names or plurals.

Seven boys

Go through the squares from 1 to 35 using the initials of the pictures to spell out the names of seven boys.



Which patterns are the same? Put them in pairs.



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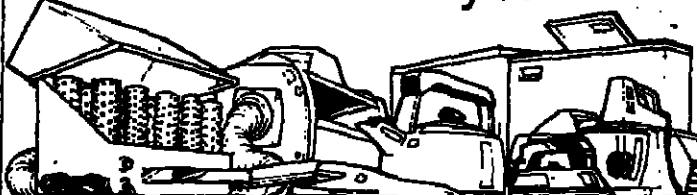
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فیم کی رپورٹ ملنے کے ایک ہفتہ بعد فائر بندی کا اعلان کر دیا جائے گا

تفصیلات میں آئندہ کچھ دنوں میں اقوام متحدہ کی فائر بندی کیلئے تہران اور بغداد کے لیے ایک مشترکہ وفد کا سفر ہوگا۔ اقوام متحدہ کے جنرل سیکریٹری ڈی پی کوئیلا نے کہا ہے کہ اقوام متحدہ کی فائر بندی کیلئے ایک مشترکہ وفد تہران اور بغداد کے لیے ایک مشترکہ وفد کا سفر ہوگا۔ اقوام متحدہ کے جنرل سیکریٹری ڈی پی کوئیلا نے کہا ہے کہ اقوام متحدہ کی فائر بندی کیلئے ایک مشترکہ وفد تہران اور بغداد کے لیے ایک مشترکہ وفد کا سفر ہوگا۔



فائر بندی کا فیصلہ نہ ہونے سے جنگی سرگرمیاں جاری رہیں گی۔ اقوام متحدہ کی فائر بندی کیلئے ایک مشترکہ وفد تہران اور بغداد کے لیے ایک مشترکہ وفد کا سفر ہوگا۔ اقوام متحدہ کے جنرل سیکریٹری ڈی پی کوئیلا نے کہا ہے کہ اقوام متحدہ کی فائر بندی کیلئے ایک مشترکہ وفد تہران اور بغداد کے لیے ایک مشترکہ وفد کا سفر ہوگا۔

عرب ٹائمز

عربی اخبار، ۲۰ جولائی ۱۹۸۸ء، جمعرات ۱۳ جولائی ۱۹۸۸ء، جمعیت ایڈیٹری، اخباردار

عراق نے ایران کے ساتھ دوسرا دورہ مذاکرات کی تیاریاں کر دی

بغداد، ۲۰ جولائی (ایکپress) عراق نے ایران کے ساتھ دوسرا دورہ مذاکرات کی تیاریاں کر دی۔ عراقی حکام نے کہا ہے کہ عراقی وفد ایران کے ساتھ دوسرا دورہ مذاکرات کی تیاریاں کر رہا ہے۔ عراقی وفد ایران کے ساتھ دوسرا دورہ مذاکرات کی تیاریاں کر رہا ہے۔

انتظامی مسائل کی بناء پر آرگنٹو وی وٹو بائی اسمبلیوں کے انتخابات ایک برس روک دیئے گئے۔ دو تین روز بعد کرانے چاہئیں گے

پاکستان میں عام انتخابات ہارو نو برس کو ہوں گے، صدیقیہ کا اعلان

صدر نے انتخابات جماعتی یا غیر جماعتی بنیادوں پر کرانے کی وضاحت نہیں کی، بعض انتظامی معاملات کی بناء پر انتخابات نو برس روک دیئے گئے

انکسپیکٹ سے کوئی حد تک متاثر نہیں ہوگا، نو برس روک دیئے گئے۔ دو تین روز بعد کرانے چاہئیں گے

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SPORTS BRIEFS

British yacht

FALMOUTH, England, July 20. (Reuters): Britain's £12 million (\$20.5 million) potential challenger for the America's Cup yacht racing trophy was officially unveiled today. But the 65-foot yacht, Blue Arrow, built in 11 weeks, is not guaranteed a chance to race in an elimination series for the cup.

Women's tennis

AIX-EN-PROVENCE, France, July 20. (AP): Top-seeded Sylvia Hanika of West Germany posted an easy second-round victory in the \$100,000 women's Golden Racket Tennis Tournament yesterday. Hanika, ranked 15th in the world, whipped Alexia Dechaume of France 6-2, 6-1.

Australian coach

HOBART, Australia, July 20. (AP): Richard Aggiss announced today that he will resign as coach of the Australian men's field hockey team after the Summer Olympics.

WBC fight

MEXICO CITY, July 20. (AP): The World Boxing Council (WBC) announced yesterday its approval of a fight between Sugar Ray Leonard and Canada's Don Lalonde for the new super middleweight crown.

Galbreath dies

COLUMBUS, Ohio, July 20. (AP): John W. Galbreath, a former owner of professional baseball's Pittsburgh Pirates and a breeder of two Kentucky Derby winners, died today at 90.

Said Aouita

VERONA, Italy, July 20. (UPI): Moroccan Said Aouita, fresh from a brilliant 1,500 metres at Nice, France, will race in Tuesday's "Golden Gala" meet, organisers announced yesterday. The Olympic 5,000 metres champion is expected to compete in the 800 metres of the Mobil Grand Prix event.

Livio Berruti

ROME, July 20. (UPI): Livio Berruti, 200 metres gold medalist at the 1960 Rome Olympics, is considering challenging powerful Primo Nebiolo for leadership of the Italian National Athletics Federation (FIDAL).

Bienne chess

BIENNE, Switzerland, July 20. (AP): Defending champion Boris Gukko of the United States and Soviet grandmaster Vladimir Tukmakov adjourned a match last night after 60 moves in the third round of the annual Bienne Chess Festival.

BRIDGE

RESULTS of the Hubara Centre bridge game held on Saturday:

1. Nabil and Nabil Akel
2. Carsten & Merchaunt
3. Rifal & Taha

Hubara Bridge Club will hold its Saturday, July 23, game as normal at 7.00 p.m. Results of the Hiltion Bridge Club game held on Sunday:

1. Alala Mousally & Richard Blackwell
2. A. & S. Banayot
3. Ghani & Basam

There will be an Hiltion bridge on Sunday, July 24, because of Eid Al Adha. Results of Sheraton Bridge game held on Tuesday:

1. M. Merchant & Ali Inam
2. Sherin Bassam & Magdi Mesdani
3. Khurshed Zubair & Sajra
1. Hussein Fazel & Chandrasekhar
2. R. Blackwell & G. Gibb
3. R. Meon & J. Burke

KRISHNAN OUTPLAYS ROSS

Visser surprises Teltscher



Krishnan: moved into the 3rd round

WASHINGTON, July 20. (UPI): Danie Visser of South Africa upset Eliot Teltscher 4-6, 7-5, 6-2 yesterday in the second round of the \$415,000 Sovran Bank Tennis Classic.

On-court temperatures, which reached 111 degrees (43.3 C) Monday, yielded little relief as the mercury recorded 105 degrees (40.5 C) in the afternoon competition.

Visser broke Teltscher three times in the third set, the first coming in the fourth game to put Visser ahead, 3-1. After Teltscher, the No. 6 seed from Palos Verdes estates, Calif., broke back in the next game, Visser broke again. He then held serve and broke Teltscher for the third time to win.

Problems
"(Teltscher's) second serve was pretty weak and very short," Visser said. "I think he was also having problems with my second serve."

The tournament's top three seeds, Jimmy Connors, Brad Gilbert and Andre Gomez, were to begin play this evening after receiving first-round byes.

In the only other second-round match yesterday afternoon, No. 5 seed Ramesh Krishnan of India defeated John Ross of Gainesville, Florida, 7-6, 6-3.

Two matches involving seeds that were interrupted by rain last

night were completed.

No. 9 Christo van Rensburg of Great Neck, New York, defeated Jeff Tarango of Manhattan Beach, California, 6-4, 6-4, while No. 15 Jorge Lozano of Mexico beat Scott Davis of Largo, Florida, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3.

Van Rensburg won the first set 6-4 and was down 0-2 when rain stopped play Monday night. But Van Rensburg broke at 2-4 and again at 5-4 to win.

"I just kept putting pressure on (Tarango)," Van Rensburg said. "I'm not gonna stand back there and hit 60-70 balls."

In other first-round matches yesterday, No. 10 Dan Goldie of McLean, Virginia, defeated Robbie Weiss of Wheeling, Illinois, 7-5, 6-4; Michael Chang, 16, of Placentia, California, advanced to the third-round by beating Dan Cassidy of Atlanta 6-4, 6-3; Jimmy Brown of Largo won by default when Peter Doohan of Australia retired with the flu after falling behind 4-1 in the first set; Ned Caswell of Atlanta rallied past Francisco Maciel of Mexico 3-6, 6-3, 6-0; Brian Page of Palos Hills, Illinois, defeated Pieter Aldrich of South Africa 5-7, 7-5, 6-4; Brad Drewett of Australia defeated Martin Barba of La Costa, California, 6-1, 6-4, and Gary Muller of South Africa topped David Lewis of New Zealand 6-1, 3-6, 6-2.

Austin to play in tournament

WASHINGTON, July 20. (Reuters): Two-time US Open champion Tracy Austin will return to the professional tennis circuit for the first time in five years when she plays doubles at three upcoming tour events, including the US Open.

Austin said that she will play doubles at a women's tournament in San Diego, August 1-7, a women's tournament in Los Angeles, and mixed doubles at the US Open, August 29-September 11.

McEnroe, whose hopes of a Wimbledon comeback ended in the second round last month, is joined by 17-year-old Andre Agassi, who moved up one place to fifth in the world rankings after winning the Stuttgart Grand Prix on Sunday. Wimbledon champions Ken Flach and Robert Seguso will play the doubles.

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Two players collide during the Syria-Egypt match.

(Reuters wirephoto)

Iraq crush Jordan

AMMAN, July 20. (Reuters): Cupholders Iraq crushed Jordan 3-0 (half-time 2-0) last night to reach the final of the fifth Arab Cup soccer championships in Amman.

Iraq's opponent in tomorrow's final will be Mediterranean champions Syria, which beat Egypt 4-3 in a penalty shoot-out after extra-time failed to produce a score.

Vulnerable

Cheered on by a capacity 25,000 crowd, including King Hussein and his eldest son Prince Abdullah, the Jordanians hurled themselves in vain against a cool Iraqi defence, but always looked vulnerable to Iraq's breakaway attacks.

Iraqi striker Ahmed Radhi struck first midway through the first half and Younis Abd Ali fired the ball into the corner of the Jordanian net just before half-time.

After Ismail Mohammed

drove in a third goal in the 77th minute, the Iraqis took control and only careless finishing saved the home side from a more humiliating scoreline.

In the other semifinal, neither Syria nor Egypt were able to penetrate each other's defence and the game was decided after extra time on penalties.

The two teams scored evenly in the first three penalty shots but Egyptian striker Ismail Yousef failed to score a goal in the Egyptians' fourth attempt.

Syrian goalkeeper Malek Shakouhi intercepted the ball with his body.

But Syrian striker Hussein Deeb scored the winning goal with a penalty kick which was missed by Egyptian goalkeeper Ahmad Jubeir and this ball ended the Egyptian dream.

In a desperate attempt, Egypt tried for a fifth time but striker Alaa' Maiboub failed to score when Shakouhi intercepted his ball.

English First Division clubs in accord on TV deal

BIRMINGHAM, England, July 20. (Reuters): English First Division soccer club chiefs, embroiled in a dispute over television which has threatened to split the League, agreed yesterday to recommend acceptance of a £44 million (\$75 million) deal.

Eighteen First Division club chairmen, shifting away from an earlier stance, decided to recommend the 74 other clubs to accept the deal with the Independent Television network (ITV) at an extraordinary general meeting of the Football League on August 8.

The nine-hour meeting gave a new twist to the dispute following a gathering of First and Second Division clubs in London last Friday which had favoured acceptance of a rival offer from the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) and British Satellite Broadcasting (BSB).

The ITV accord would be worth £11 million (\$19 million) a year for four years, with every club in the First Division getting an additional amount.

All sides in the dispute were summoned to the meeting secretly after a court injunction prevented 10 major First Division clubs from negotiating independently following fears of the creation of an elite breakaway "Super League."

"We had two proposals on the table and the ITV offer was the one the First Division accepted," Football League chairman Philip Carter said.

"We would like to think that the other clubs will view this deal accordingly."

The formation of a Super League was not discussed at the meeting but the idea has not been dismissed. "We need to examine the future structure of the game in which a premier league is one consideration," Carter said.

Sweden aim to reach final

LONDON, July 20. (Reuters): With three grand slam tournament titles between them already this year, Stefan Edberg and Mats Wilander should have every confidence that they can push Sweden through this weekend to their sixth successive Davis Cup tennis final.

All four Swedish players — Kent Carlsson and Anders Jarryd complete the line-up — rank among the world's top 18, a depth of talent unmatched in any other Davis Cup team.

Usually

Their French opponents in the semifinal at Bastad, Sweden, starting on Friday, do boast Yannick Noah and Henri Leconte — ranked 10th and 12th respectively — and are oozing confidence after their 5-0 rout of Australia in the quarterfinals in April.

But the value of that French victory — the first over Australia in the Cup since 1925 — was

diluted by the fact that 1987 Wimbledon champion Pat Cash, usually Australia's star player in the Davis Cup, chose to miss the tie so that he could attend the birth of his second child.

Boris Becker, still smarting from his defeat by Edberg in the Wimbledon final, will try to line up another crack at the Swede by helping West Germany beat Yugoslavia in the second world group semifinal.

The West Germans have chosen an indoor stadium with a fast, carpet surface at Dortmund which they hope will give them an advantage for the three-day fixture.

Yugoslavia's Slobodan Zivonjovic has the bonus of knowing Becker well from the days when they used to travel the circuit together.

But, if the Yugoslavs do get through to the final for the first time, Zivonjovic would not relish the prospect of another

encounter with Wilander, the French and Australian Open champion, who beat him in the third round at Wimbledon.

Former Wimbledon champion John McEnroe, beaten by Becker in his last Davis Cup appearance a year ago, returns to help the US fight to get back into the world group.

The United States, the first Davis Cup winners in 1900, go to Argentina for the American group final, one of four zone ties this weekend which will decide the nations to be promoted next year.

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AOF names team for Games

MELBOURNE, July 20. (Reuters): Wally Masur, John Fitzgerald and Darren Cahill will represent Australia in the tennis competitions at the Seoul Olympics. Australian officials confirmed today.

Former Wimbledon champion Pat Cash, ranked seventh in the world, last week turned down an appeal by the Australian Olympic Federation (AOF) to play, citing family and other playing commitments.

Naturalised

Kevan Gosper, the AOF president, said the women's team would be Anne Minter, Liz Smylie and Wendy Turnbull.

Czechoslovak-born Hana Mandlikova, a naturalised Australian who is ranked 11th in the world, was ruled ineligible to represent her newly-adopted country by international tennis authorities.

World record possible in 400 metres, says Lewis

INDIANAPOLIS, July 20. (Reuters): The world 400 metres record could fall in this evening's final at the US Olympic trials, according to Steve Lewis, America's newest sensation in the event.

"It definitely will take a time of less than 44 seconds to win the race," Lewis told Reuters yesterday as he relaxed in his hotel. In Monday's semifinals, the 19-year-old American clocked 44.11 seconds — the fifth fastest time ever.

"There could even be a couple of guys under 44 seconds," said Lewis, who is not related to US superstar Carl Lewis.

American Lee Evans set the world record of 43.86 seconds in the 400 metres at the Mexico Olympics in 1968. Only he and compatriot Larry Evans, who ran 43.97 in the Mexico City race,

have ever been under 44 seconds. But the 1.88-metre Lewis said if the weather is hot in Indianapolis, as it has been for the first four days of the trials, "there definitely will be some times in the 43-second figure."

With a field that includes Harry "Butch" Reynolds, who ran 44.10 seconds last year, Lewis' teammate Danny Everett, who has a best of 44.37, and veterans Roddie Haley and Antonio McKay, it may be possible.

"You've got to watch everybody in this one," said Lewis, a Los Angeles native who began his running career at age nine.

"I'm going to take it out just as fast as I can and I hope to be enough ahead to maintain the lead at the finish."

Delgado admits to failing dope test

BORDEAUX, France, July 20. (Reuters): Tour de France leader Pedro Delgado of Spain told Reuters today that he had failed a dope test during the cycle race. "I was notified this morning by my team director Jose Eichavarrri that I had undergone a positive test," he said. "I asked for a counter-test to be made."

Positive

No sanctions can be taken against the rider unless a second test also proves positive. A second urine sample is taken at the same time as the first and can be unsuited and tested to confirm the results of the original.

Should Delgado fail the second test, he would be demoted to last place on the stage involved and incur a 10-minute penalty which would drop him to seventh in the overall standings and make it virtually certain that he could no longer win the Tour.